3
PUMPKIN SCISSORS
Ryotaro Iwanaga

Pumpkin Scissors

Imperial Army State Section III

by
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One must think deeply to
become comfortable in
one's skin.

Pumpkin Scissors 3

Ryotaro Iwanaga

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About This Story

The bloody war between the Empire and the Republic of Frost left a deep wound throughout the Empire.

Three years have passed since the cease fire, now known as the Thin Ice treaty. The Empire is still plagued with starvation and disease while gangs of former soldiers terrorize the populace. The Empire is now fighting another battle to repair the destruction of war. Imperial Army State Section III was established as a "propaganda" tool to placate the masses. However the members of Imperial Army State Section III known as "Pumpkin Scissors" are committed to cutting through the thick skin of corruption and crime to bring justice to the people.

Muze Caplan

The Head researcher for Caplan Institute. She seems to be a heartless woman focuse on her research. She's involved with the Mimis for the project.

Hans

A soldier turned [illegible] He recently [illegible] and [illegible] cook with a special [illegible] [illegible] of Mion.

Mion

The president of the public waterworks. He's been overseeing the distribution of illegal drugs to the refugees living in the sewer system.

Lieutenant Alice Melvin

Born into nobility she's a straightforward and kind soul. The second lieutenant for Pumpkin Scissors, she works hard to advance the cause of reconstruction and war relief for the people.

Corporal Oland

A towering giant he's a decorated veteran who re-enlisted into Section III. During the war he was one of the Invincible Nine, Unit members.

Warrant Officer Orelia

An officer in Pumpkin Scissors. Aka Stockage Hound. He comes across as a mellow, [illegible] guy, but he [illegible] Saving [illegible] side.

Warrant Officer Machs

He seems to be the most serious of all the Pumpkin Scissors members. Yet he still finds [illegible] so that he may be more [illegible] eye.

Captain Hunks

The leader of Section III. [illegible] razor sharp mind is hidden underneath his leisurely, low key exterior.

Sergeant Major Stocchia

A clumsy young girl who still [illegible] pusher for Section III. She doesn't resemble a soldier, nor does she consider herself to be one.

Mercury

Sent on III Courier Private First Class Messenger Dog. He's a lovable mak with a goofy face. He hasn't been sent recent [illegible]

Major Connery

The Base [illegible] Section III be also in charge of national security. He appears to have authority and responsibilities that [illegible] his actual position.

First Lieutenant Webner

Technology Research [illegible] Section III. She's also a competent woman. She often sides with Section III unlike many people in her department. She has high blood pressure due to Section III rushing her [illegible]

COLD
COLD
COLD
COLD
COLD
COLD
GRTCH K

He's coming...
We have to meet the men from the organization.
Let's go.
I know this feeling...
The blue will o'wisp!!
The one to extinguish the flame of the Fire God

90g?
Uh-huh.

Episode 7 Lady with the Scissors

In fact, I developed their protective solution.
Protective solution?
There was a problem with the unit.
Their protective suits weren't adequate protection against the extreme heat.

It's a liquid insulation inside their suit to protect their body from the heat.
The "protective solution" was developed to solve that issue.

That sounds really useful.
It's a lie.
CLIK
SNAP

That was what we told the unit to get them into that suit.

I'm cold.
Then what was in the protective solution?
Cold...
Cold...
They just can't "feel" themselves getting burned.
It's just an anesthetic to dull their senses.

His skin underne..th that suit
is probably destroyed by now...
SEAM
He's using the flame-thrower without knowing
what it's doing to his body!

Alt Schmied Jäger
FLUTTER

In communist folklore, he was a one pump chump.
Alt Schmied was a fire god and a cyclops.

A god that has forgotten a world full of life...
He scorched people with drought.

Do you think we'll end up exchanging fire?
This is a critical moment. Corporal, focus!
CLANK
CLANK
CLANK
Based on experience. .
Probably

If we see him,
can I deal with him?
No.
What?
But, uh... Lieutenant!
I'll fight him! Besides, you're hiding something from me.
~Up Hum
I'm not, really Lieutenant, are you upset with me!?

Waterworks Administration Building
We're almost at the water-works building.
Uh...

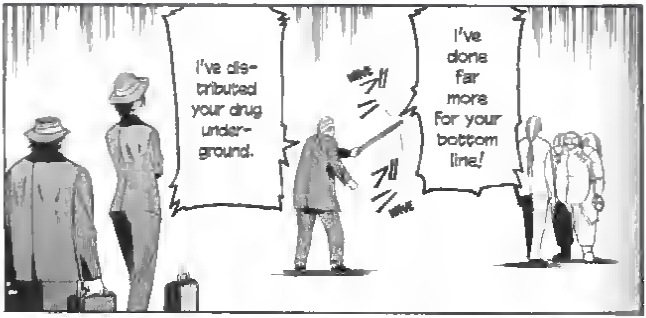
the Sterling Wheel.
We all serve
W...

...

SILENCE

—the Sterling
We all serve—
Only members use that greeting toward each other.
Mr. Mion.
GIGGLE
GIGGLE
GIGGLE

How are you doing, Hans?
You gave me a place to stay.
I'm thankful
Thank you for putting up with this thankless job.
That worthless freak!
CRUSH
(CRUSH)


I've distributed your drug underground.
I've done far more for your bottom line!

I created the documents that you need!

Yes, sir.
Bernea...

There's your next stash.
TOSS
Here you go.

You just keep
the drug in circulation as instructed, sir.

WAVE
WAVE

BANG

...What the—

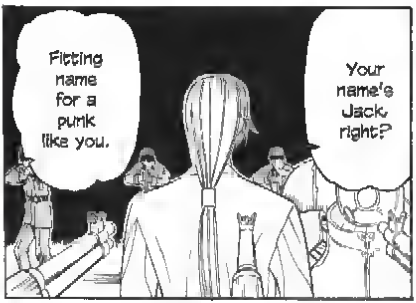
SHEER
TONK
TONK
TONK

Did you hear a gunshot?
VREEAM
Martie, let's go!
But... Lieutenant!
Yes ma'am
Corporal, there's not time to talk...
SLAM
STARE

ARGH! Do what you want!
Lieu
Can you shoot him?
You have reservations about fighting him, right?
If that's the case,
I'll fight him for you.

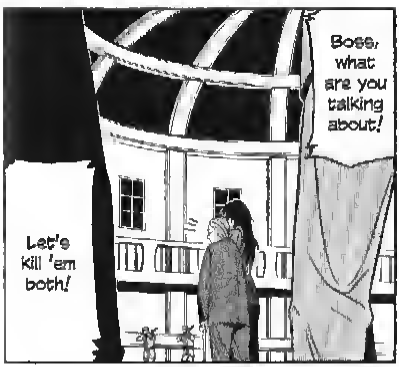
Lieutenant, that's why
I'm prepared
SQUEEZE
to fight.

I think I deserve a bigger piece of the pie.
TAT
I usually make sure this building's empty.


Fitting name for a punk like you.
Your name's Jack, right?

I believe it's time you make me a member of
POKE
So, Jack...

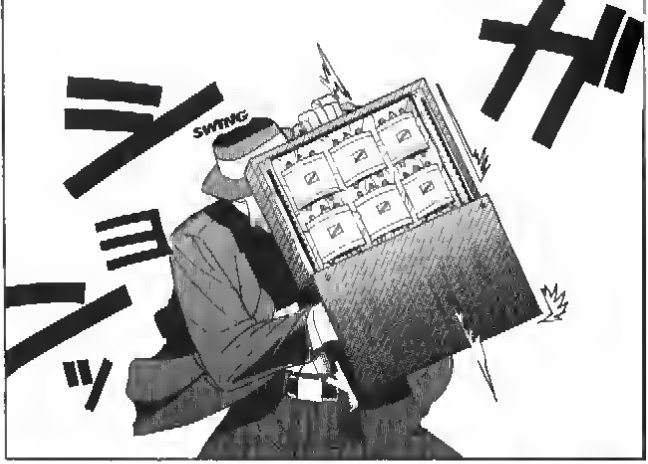
The Sterling Wheel!


Let's kill 'em both!
Boss, what are you talking about!

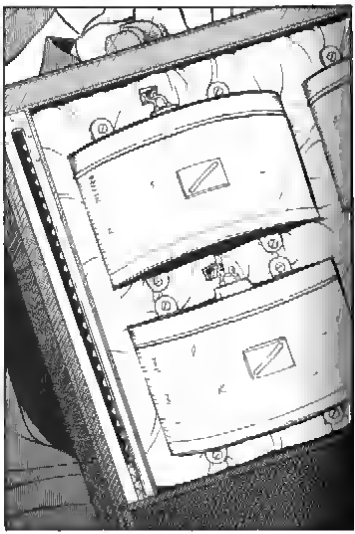
SHEER

You said this was the jerk who tried to drown us!
This bastard tried to fry us in the sewers!
Kill 'em all!
Kill!
Kill 'em!
I'm the only one who can stop them.
Turn around and answer me

Yes, sir.
Gran
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
Doesn't matter! Let's start with this one!
Hey! Don't move!
CLICK
CLICK

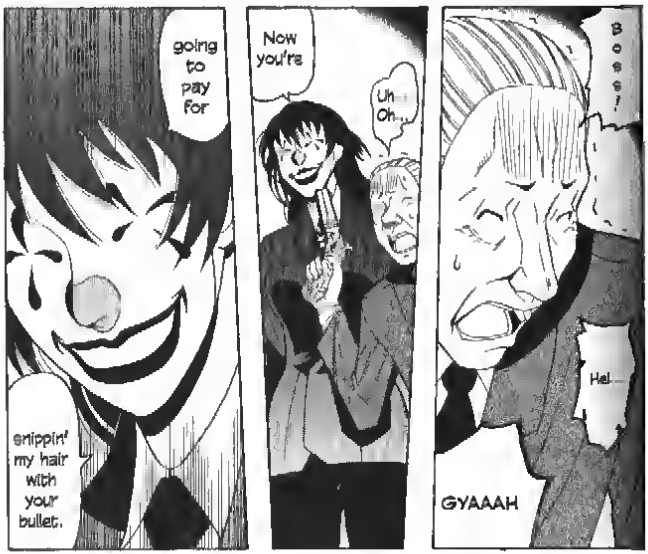

SWING!

What the hell?



BANNOCK!
CRACK
CRACK
SHATTER

ウオ
ウオ
ウオ
GUAH!
GYAAAH!


Boss!
He!
GYAAAH
Now you're
Uh Oh...
going to pay for
snippin' my hair with your bullet.

What!?
JOSS
CREAK
Drop the gun right now,
unless you

SCHWEEN
Uh
um—
I...
want to be slashed to ribbons.
Everyone!
Drop your weapons!
Crap
TWANG

I'm dead meat.

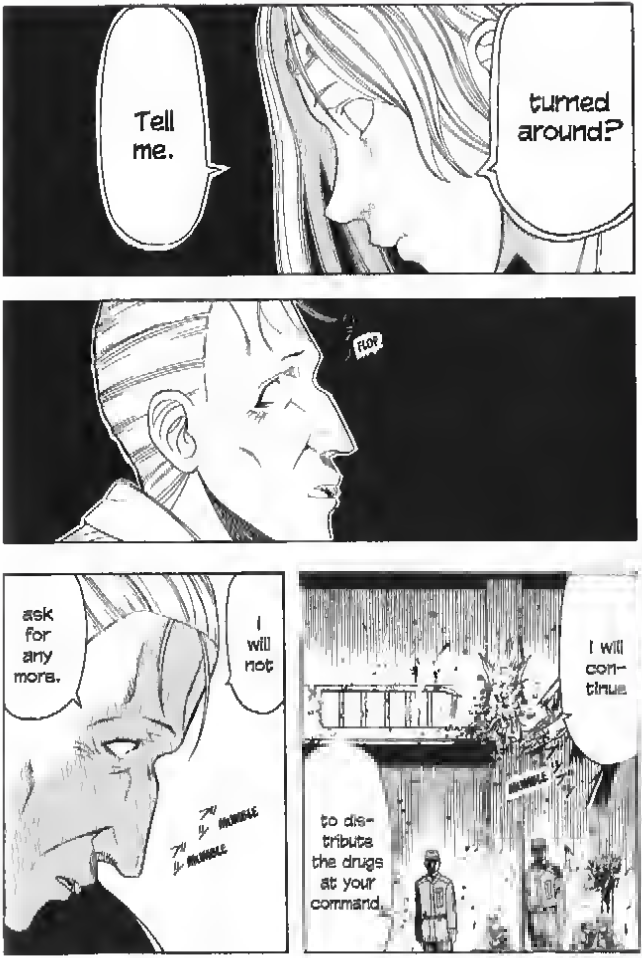
!

They're going to kill me.
I turned against the organization and failed.

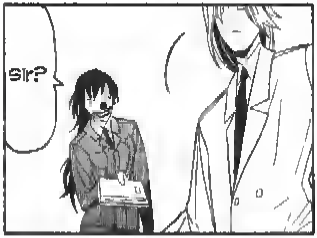
!?
We'll see you in two weeks.

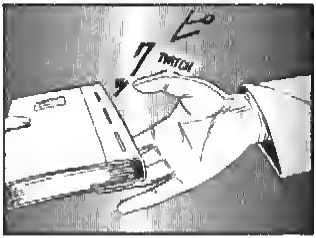
I beg forgiveness for my insolent behavior.

You'll forgive me!?
Forgive?
.....
you do?
What did
before I
Were you able to do anything to me


Tell me.
turned around?
FLOP
ask for any more.
I will not
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
to distribute the drugs at your command.
I will continue
RUMBLE

We need to leave.
Bernea, get the documents.
Yes, sir.
STEP

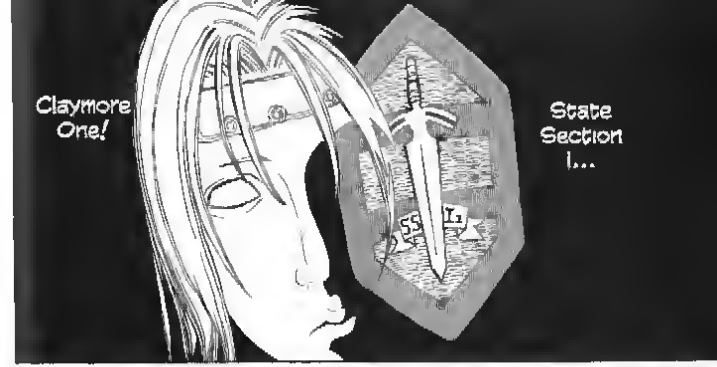

Sir?


TWITCH

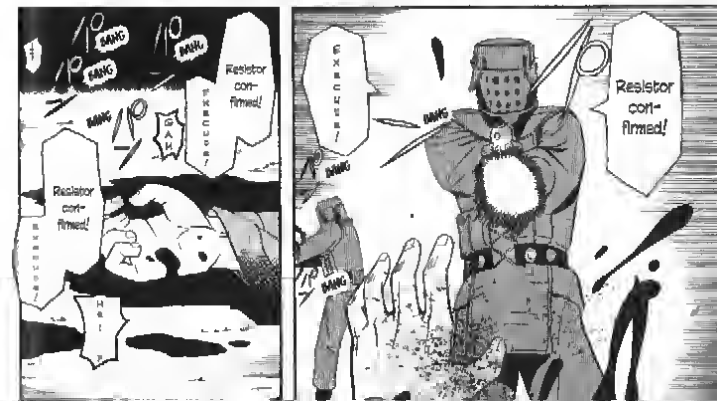
We've been surrounded.

CLICK
CLICK

ガシャン
ガシャン


Claymore One!
State Section 1...

Uh
GAAAH!
Execute all resistors!
Find the documents!


BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG
Resistor confirmed!
EXECUTE!
GAH
Resistor confirmed!
EXECUTE!
HRI
EXECUTE!
BANG
BANG
BANG
Resistor confirmed!

Negative here.
Documents, negative...
Where could the damned thing be?
?

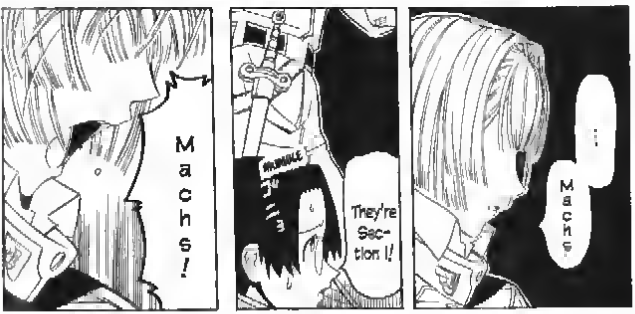
CRACK
KRAAAAAA
SMOKE
SMOKE
KOFF
Our men just got
SMOKE
SMOKE
Sir!
SLIT
SLIT

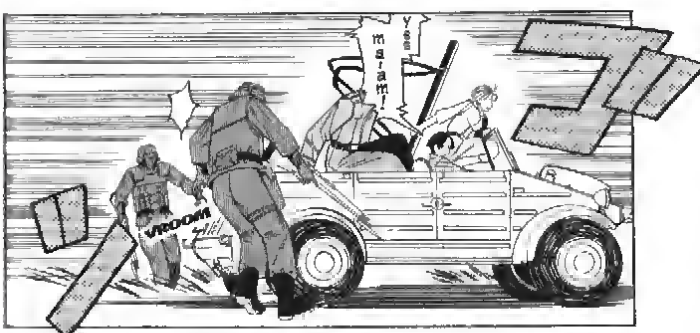
I know.
We must hurry!
Bring over the armor piercing ammo!
What the hell?

Why are you .
My job is to protect you.
Stand up.
They'll be here
very soon!!
They.
SKREEGH

GUAAH
What's going on!?
LEAP
THUD
BANG
BANG
BANG
They're hunting down amateurs!
An assault team...
...!!

You must leave immediately!
STAND
We have operational jurisdiction here.


Machs!
RUMBLE
They're Section 1!
...
Machs?


yes ma'am!
VROOOM

We have intruders in our operational zone!
Contact headquarters immediately!
Damn idiots!
Requesting permission to execute!
ガシャ
ガシャ
ガシャ
click
click
State Section III
Intruders are Imperial soldiers.

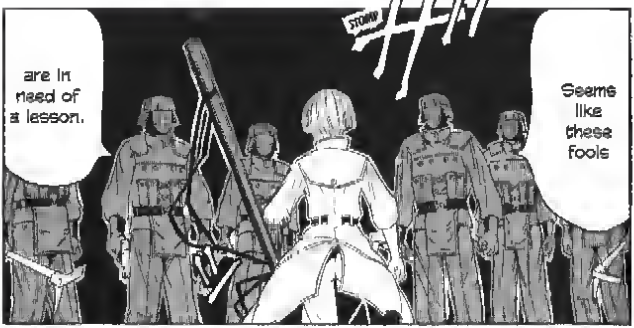
Pumpkin Scissors

Halt the massacre!
Who's in charge here?

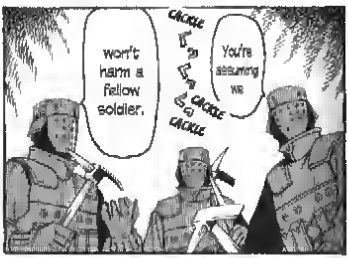
This is our operational zone
Who the hell are you?

LEAP
LISU

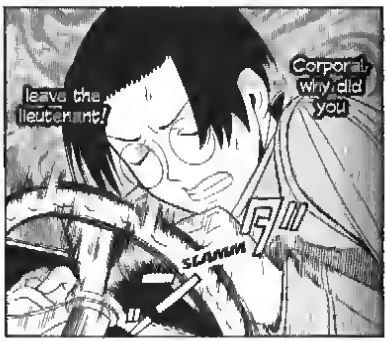
BANG
BANG
Follow him, Machs
DASH
Freeze!
Corporal!?
I'm sure Corporal found his man.
Corporal wanted to fight...
What about you, Lieutenant?
フッ…
Mion's going to be nearby.
Back the man up.
GYAH


STORM
Seems like these fools
are in need of a lesson.

Lieutenant!
I can't stop her by myself.


You're assuming we
won't harm a fellow soldier.
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
CRACKLE

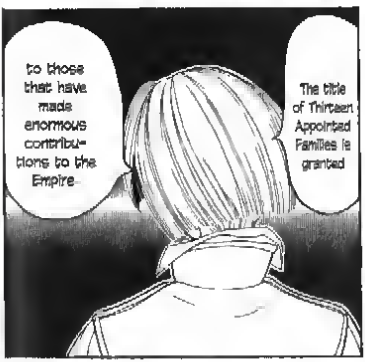
I don't know why.


Corporal, why did you
leave the lieutenant?
SCHWIN

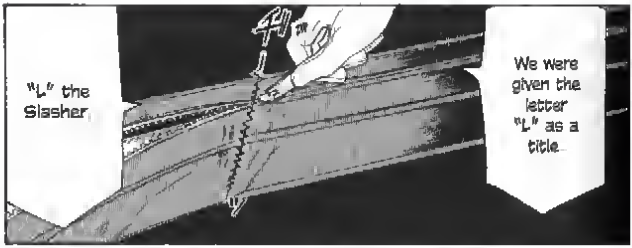
For the first time, I feel like
the Corporal trusts me.
Good luck.
...
Who-!
WHEEEE
Hey!!
SLAM

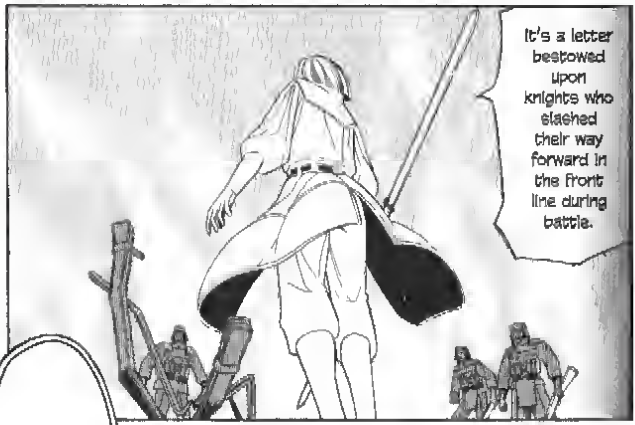
VROOM!!
SKRUNK
Corporal, ever since
you joined us,
our sleepy little unit has been wracked with violence.

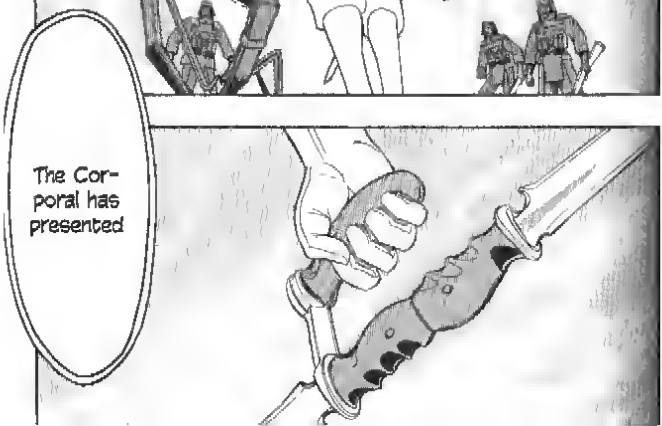
Start up the armored vehicle with the hedgerow cutters!
Shit, four-eyes blocked the path.
Corporal Randel Oland...
BOKK
SMACK


to those that have made enormous contributions to the Empire
The title of Thirteen Appointed Families is granted

THUD


"L" the Slasher
We were given the letter "L" as a title.


It's a letter bestowed upon knights who slashed their way forward in the front line during battle.


The Corporal has presented

me with a battlefield.
Chal-
lenge
me if
you
dare!
SWING
#7/ THE END

PumpkinScissors

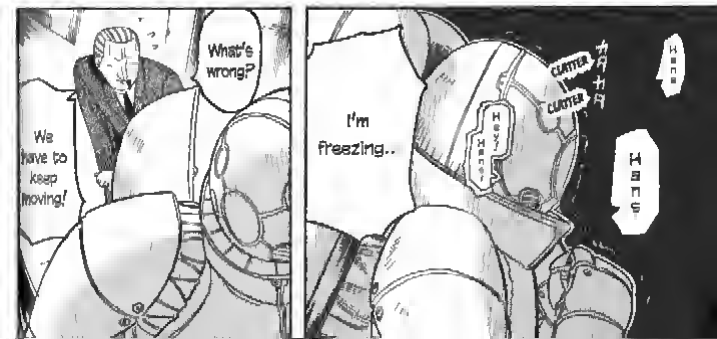
PumpkinScissors

SPLASH
PFFHHT
おはははは
HAHAHAHA
Thank god for the cease-fire.
We can finally get out of this getup!
RAISE
You're slow as usual.
You're the only one left!
Uh Gun
CLATTER
CLATTER
Hurry up, Hans!
CACKLE
おはは

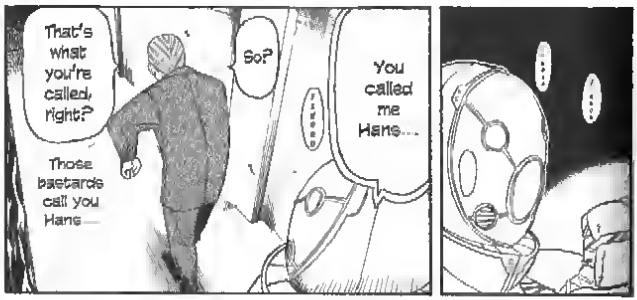
Did ya know?
He's already 16, but
he hasn't been with a woman yet!!
GRAB
I promised to introduce him to chicks when we get back. Right?
GAHAHA
SLIDE
DRIP

Your jaw just slid off your face...?
Uh...
SLIP
Wha-!?
My skin's sliding off!
My skin!
It's falling off!
Blood's pouring out!
GAAAH
GAAAH
SLIP
SPLAT
SLIP
RUN
Run away, Hans.
DWOOOH
protective solution
We were using that

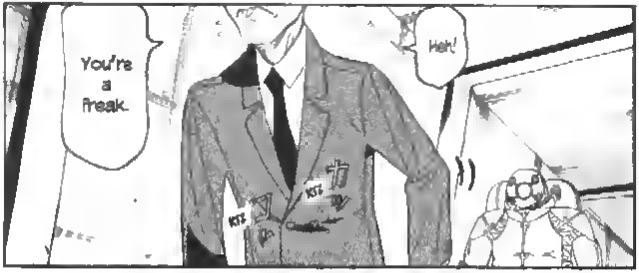
Episode 3 Men of the Pumpkins

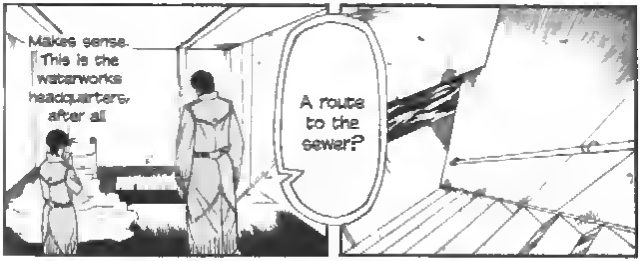


I've made up my mind!
I'm getting the hell outta here.
I'll get my revenge against the army...


You called me Hans...
So?
That's what you're called, right?
Those bastards call you Hans...

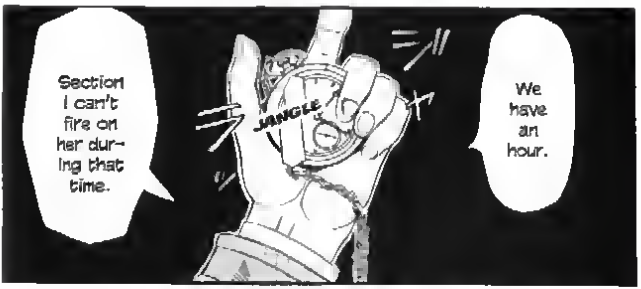
Reminded me of my days
with my unit 908...


You're a freak.
Heh!


Makes sense. This is the waterworks headquarters, after all.
A route to the sewer?

I shouldn't stray much farther from the lieutenant.
I was impulsive.

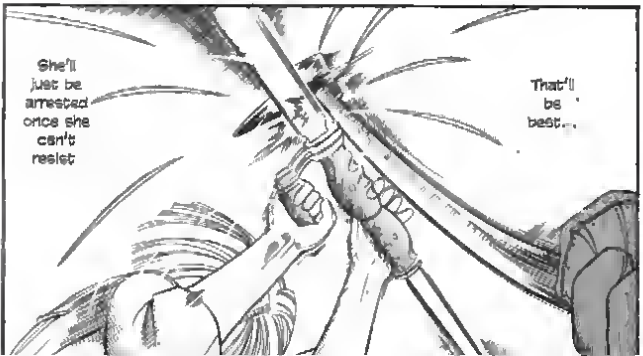
If you trust her, then don't worry
She can take care of herself
She's a noble, and she's also a fellow soldier
The execution order will have to be required before they shoot her.
Even Major Connery will need at least an hour to get permission from his superiors


Section I can't fire on her during that time.
JINGLE
We have an hour.

Fatigue will set in quickly.
She can't fend them off for a full hour.
KU
KUU
KU
KUU

NOD
LEAN

We just have to get back before then.


She'll just be arrested once she can't resist
That'll be best...

We're talking
But...
Alice Malvin.
about

wrongdoing that most would choose to ignore...
She'll raise her sword against
lay down her weapon!!
She won't

Women usually don't fight this hard!!
SHAKE
SHAKE
Damn!
That weapon was used when wars were still fought on horseback.
Her weapon... that's called a mihne.
Vice-captain!
The rider can't slash freely due to the horse's neck.
Fighting on horseback opens up a weakness on the unarmed side.

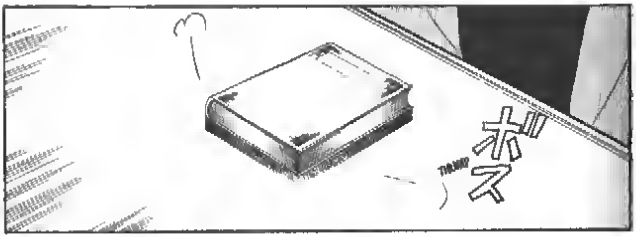
It uses its weight and a spinning momentum to stab opponents rather than slashing
The double-ended mallma was developed as a solution.
SPIN
She dares to fight with such a weapon.
THWIP

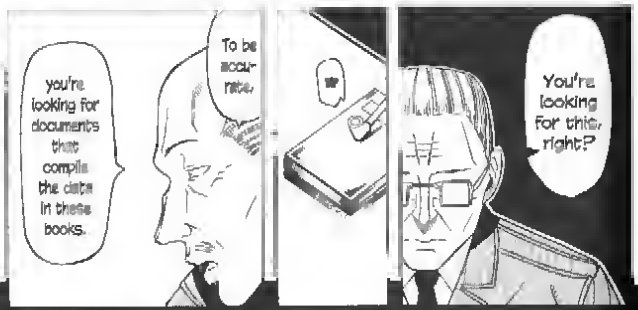
I agree. You don't fight like a woman.
TCHHHHT
SWISH
Damn!
Did the execution order come in yet?

I was wondering why you decided to visit me.

You must be kidding.
So, you want me to pull my men out?

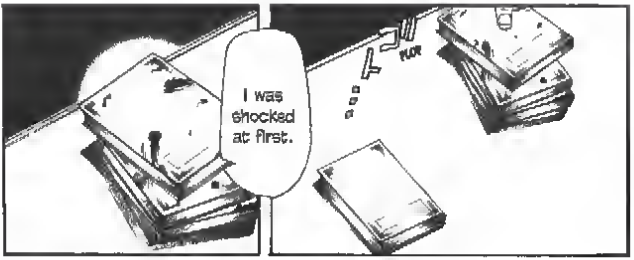
For the sake of national security, we've been planning this op for three long months.
This place cost lots of money to build.
Claymore one. Once the sword's coming down, it can't be stopped.


ボス
THUD

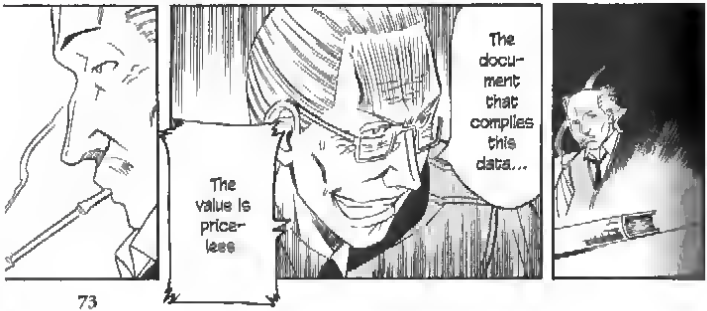

You're looking for this, right?
W
To be accurate,
you're looking for documents that compile the data in these books.

It's the experimental data from the drug trade
that turned the sewers into another "country."

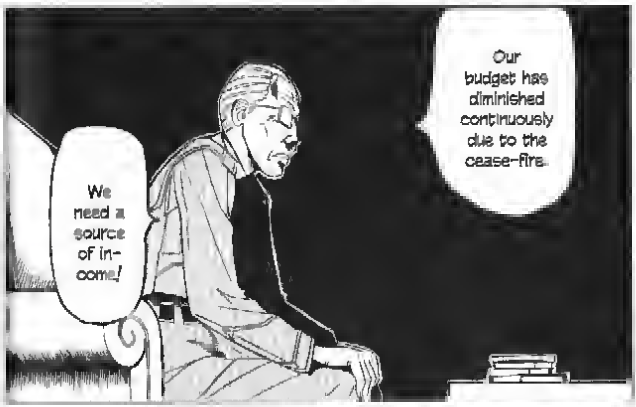
Do you know how many refugees are living in this sewers?
The expansive sewer system is now the equivalent of a small country
Few hundred. Few thousand... likely a lot more.
The people you relocated are just a small handful of the total


I was shocked at first.
FLOP

These books tell you everything you want to know about the users
These books contain the gender, age, physical description, purchase amount, and frequency of everyone who has ever bought this drug


The value is priceless
The document that compiles this data...

So you're saying the army wants
to run a drug cartel?

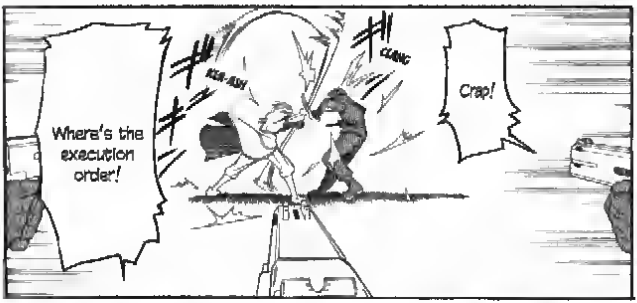

Our budget has diminished continuously due to the cease-fire.
We need a source of income!

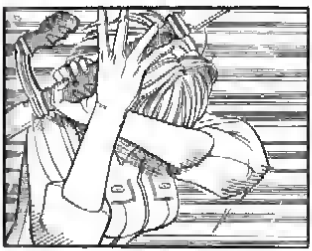
THWAPP
I'm here to do Section III's job.
I don't give a damn about that
HEH
Your men need to pull out, Hunks.
I gave the approval for Section I's execution order of fellow soldiers

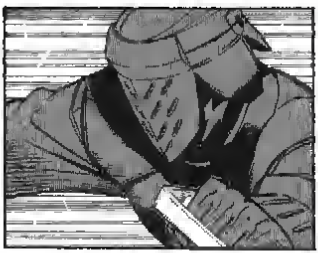
There are higher ranking members in the army who have no love for the Thirteen Appointed Families.
You're missing an important point.
Mion is being supported by an unknown organization.
In this day and age of widespread poverty,
their focus is not on the drug or money.
I can crush a drug cartel or two.
That's the problem.

I doubt they're a petty drug cartel
Their currency is information
I've got an idea.
the latest and greatest weapons
CLICKING
They don't hesitate to provide punks with
idea?

Cancel the execution order.
I give you information
in exchange for your signature.


Where's the execution order!
SLASH
CLANG
Crap!





I'm surprised she's lasted this long
She must be exhausted.
HUFF
HUFF
PUFF
PUFF
WING
SW
However...
GAMM

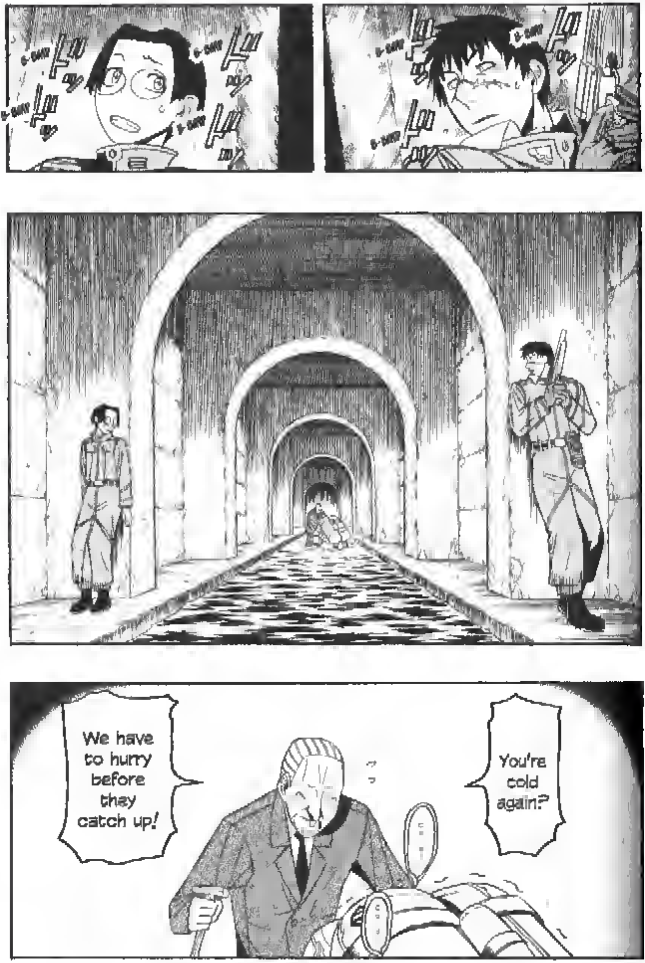
!
GRUK
KLANK
KLANK
The weight of your weapon is your undoing!

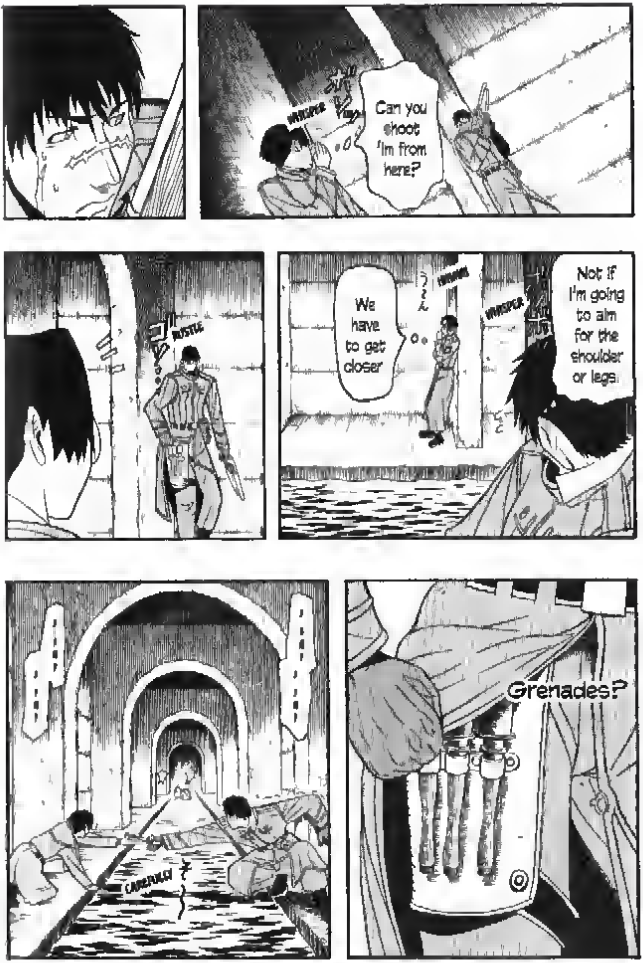
SLICE
CRACK
SPRING
This can't be...

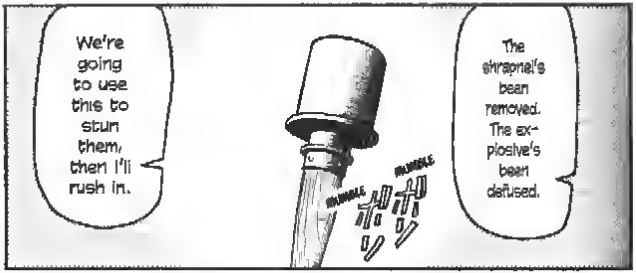
FLING
KICKKICK
KNACK
Those armored boots
serve a purpose...

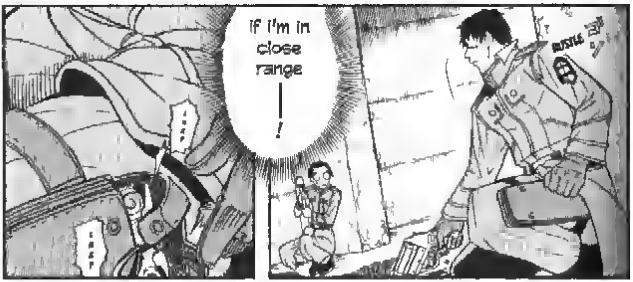
THUD
PANT
PANT
PANT

The real hunt starts when the lioness begins the ambush
The male lion's job is to chase the prey
The lioness will have no mercy
Another unit!?
TURN
Machs!
Corporal!


We have to hurry before they catch up!
You're cold again?


WHISPER
Can you shoot 'im from here?
RUSTLE
We have to get closer
WHISPER
Not if I'm going to aim for the shoulder or legs.
CAREFULLY
Grenades?


We're going to use this to stun them, then I'll rush in.
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
The shrapnel's been removed. The explosive's been defused.


If I'm in close range
!
!!
RUSTLE

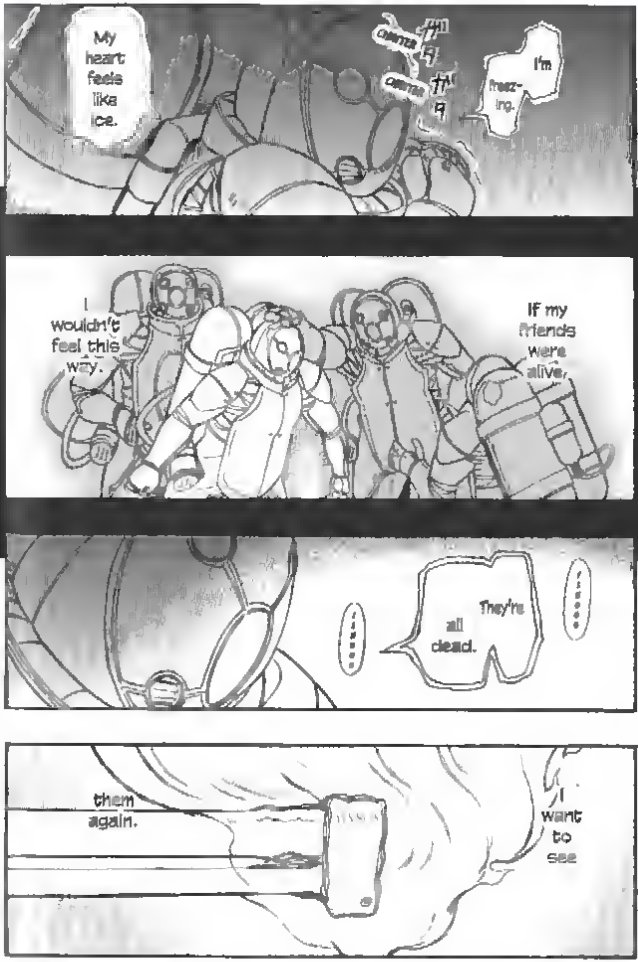
1...
Get moving!
2!
3!

TWITCH
I'll leave your ass behind, Hans!
Why don't you take off that cumbersome suit of yours?
Hmh!
The shivering stopped.
I haven't removed this suit
Everyone in my unit fell apart and died once they removed the suit
I can't. I'll die.

three years ago.
since the cease-fire
I'll never remove this
as long as I live.
I use the provided equipment to eat and eliminate.

I want you
to surrender, 908.
I know someone at Caplan Institute
A soldier!
She might be able to help you!
Pleeeee!

CLICK
When I got into this suit,
SWOOSH
my body could no longer feel hot, warm, or cold.
Heat and warmth also disappeared
completely from my heart.
So why
did the coldness remain?


My heart feels like ice.
CHATTER
CHATTER
I'm freezing.
I wouldn't feel this way.
If my friends were alive,
They're all dead.
them again.
I want to see

I see them.
In the flames.
That's why I
burn people.
When I set people on fire,
my heart feels warmer...

BWHOSH
Duck!
FLING
COOPER!!
BOOOM
It wasn't close enough to stun them.
HIYE
The flames forced it to explode too quickly.
GHH
SPLASH

RINNNNG
RINNNNG
What the hell is that light?
RIIIING
They
Will o'wisp.
RINNNNG

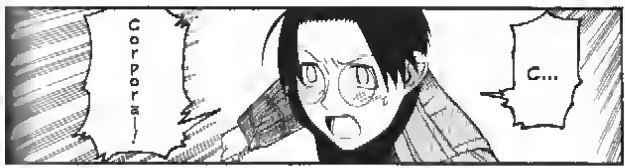
midnight glow.
march among the
DASH
BLOOMSCH

BLAST!
WHOOOSH
WHOOOSH
Your flames aren't working!
Hey!
STOMP
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
SPLASH

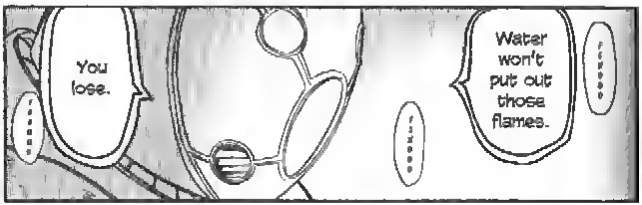
STAGGER

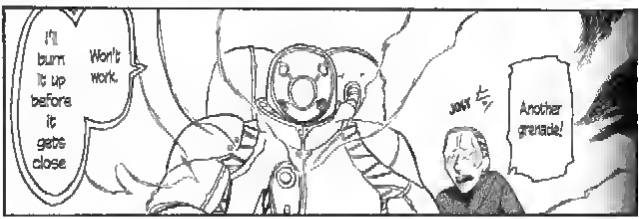
SPLAT

SHAKE
SHAKE

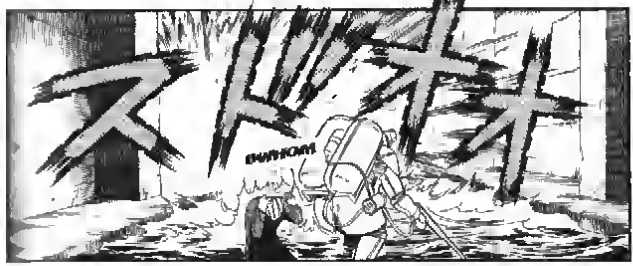

C...
Corpora!

Stop your brain, stop everything.
Flames will smother your breath...
GASP
GASP
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
RAFF
RAFF
RAFF


You lose.
Water won't put out those flames.

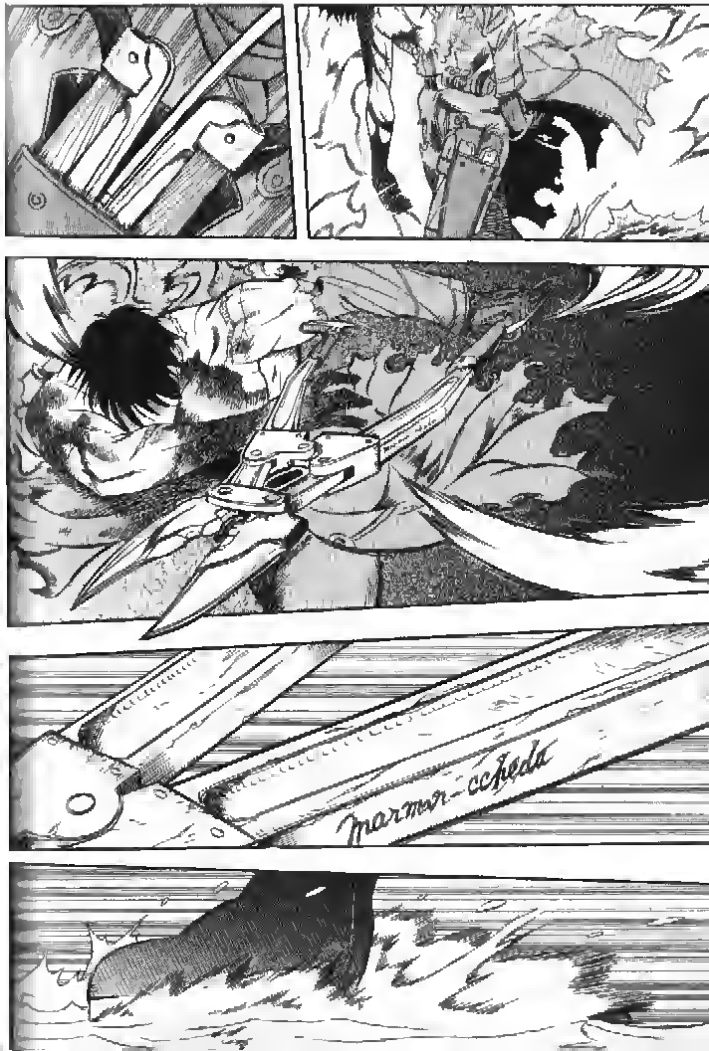

I'll burn it up before it gets close
Won't work.
Another grenade!

He's too weak to throw it!
Corporal!
SHAKE

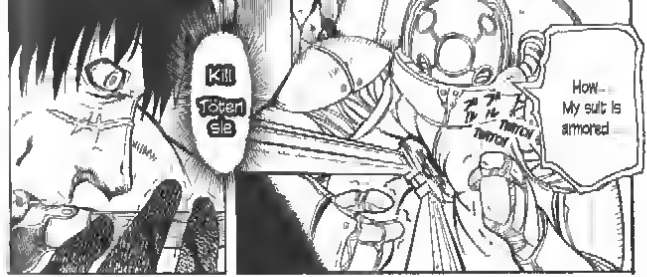

ズドォォ
BWHOOM

GASP
The flames...
RIIING
901 ATT...

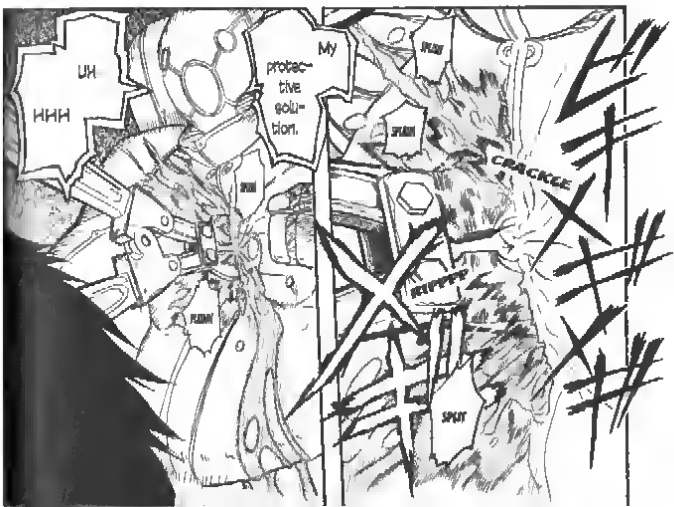
He just blew off the flaming skin and clothes!!
GLARE

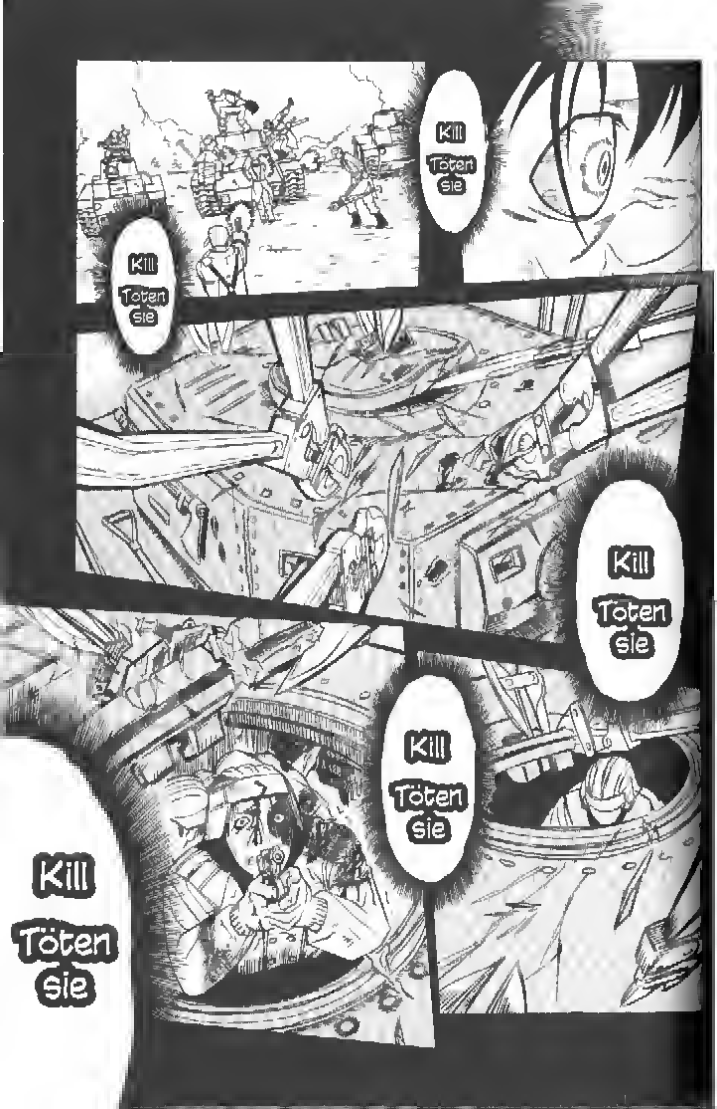

Marmar-ccheda

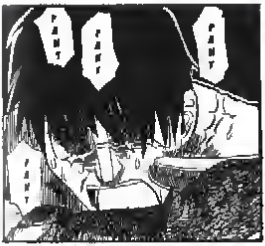
SCRUNCH

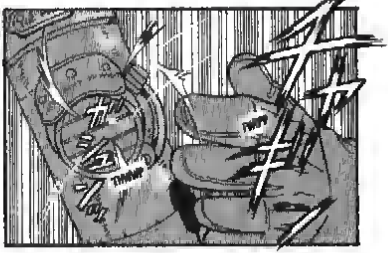

Kill
Töten sie
How...
My suit is armored...
TWITCH
TWITCH

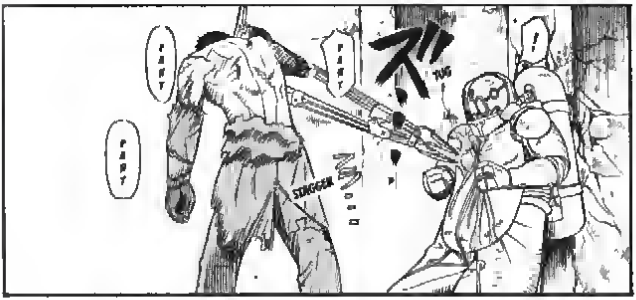
SQUEAK
RUN!
SQUEAK
SQUEAK
!


UH
HHH
My protective solution.
SPLAT
SPLAT
CRACKLE
RUN
RUN
RIPPPP
SPLAT


Kill
Töten sie
Kill
Töten sie
Kill
Töten sie
Kill
Töten sie
Kill
Töten sie

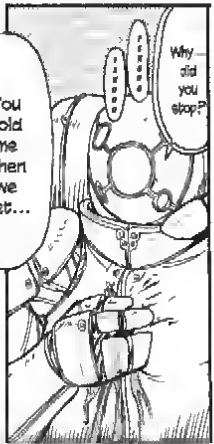



ナナナ!!
THWIP
THWIP


ズル
TUG
STAGGER

They're still
RACE

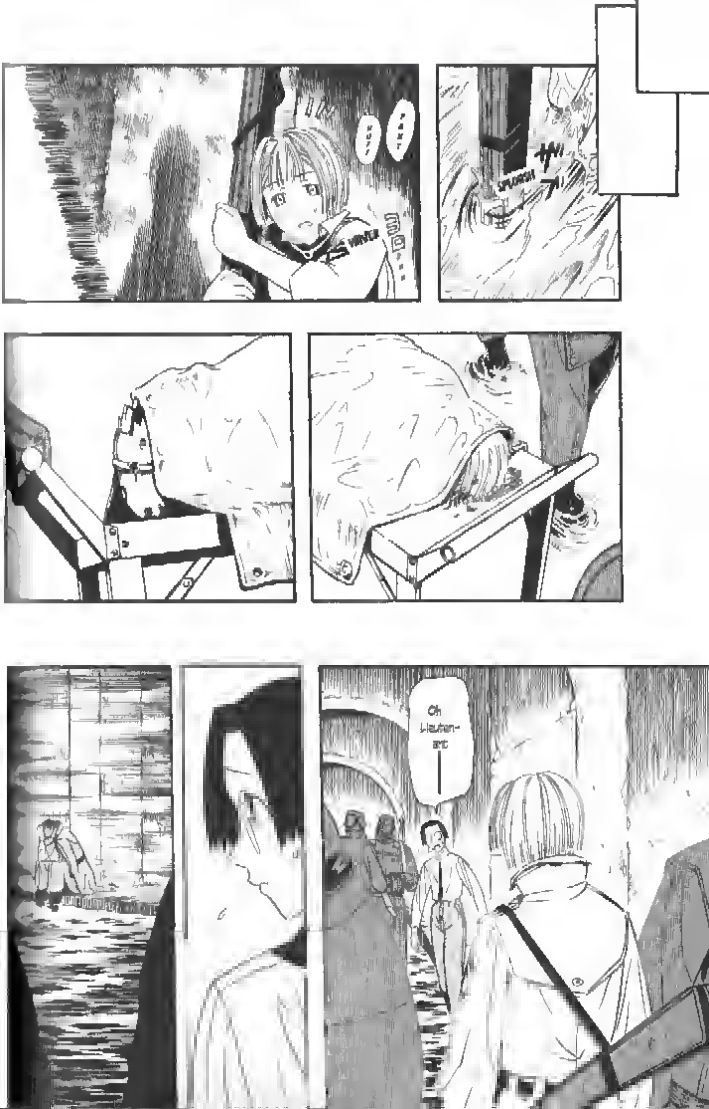
You told me when we met...

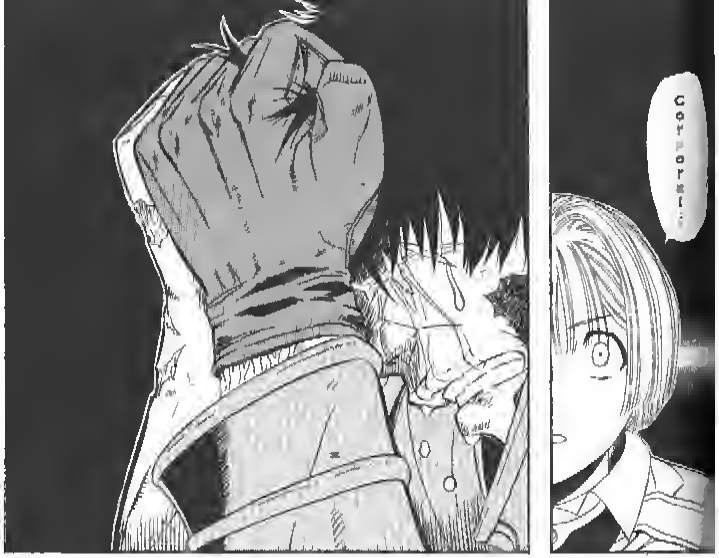

Why did you stop?

Aim for the head.
Fire the armor-piercing round.
We're on the same—
CRUNCH!
Fire!
I'm 908 ..

I said
you're one of
us...
CLUNK!
HERE LIES

Mion!
Who shot him?
Did we hit Mion!?
Stop shooting!
We all serve
the Sterling Wheel.


SPLURCH
Oh Lieuten-ant

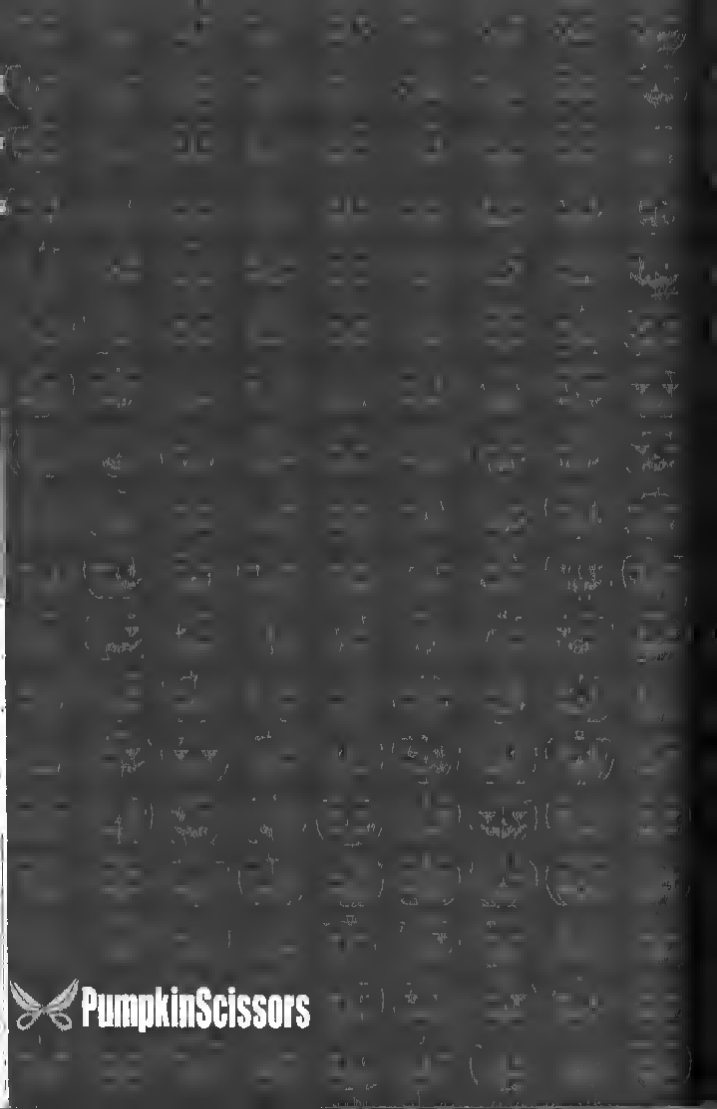

Corporal!

Tell everyone to take some time off
I see.

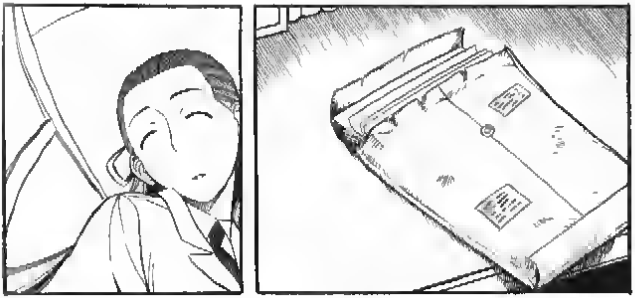
How come!
It's been 3 years since the cease-fire.

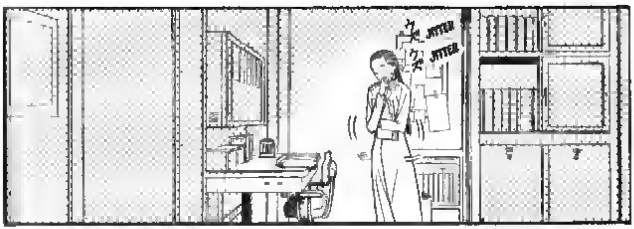
keep hearing gunshots every-where?

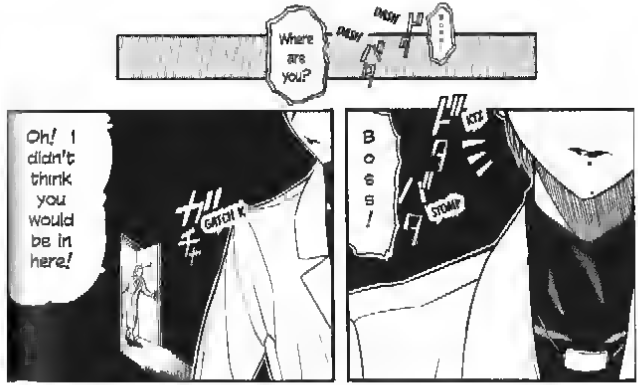
#8/ THE END

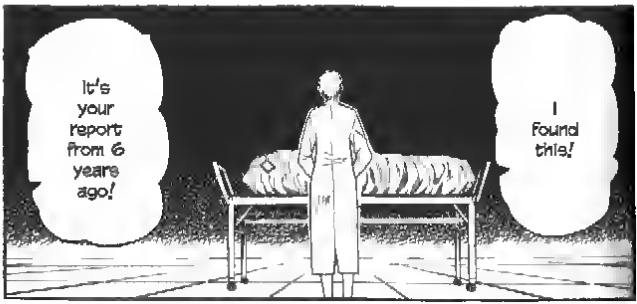

PumpkinScissors

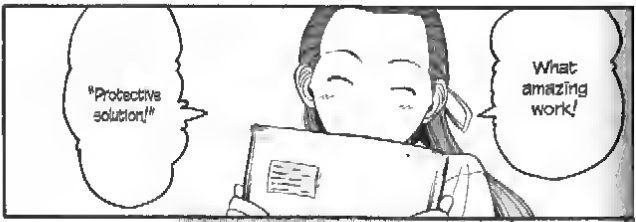
Interval




JITTER
JITTER

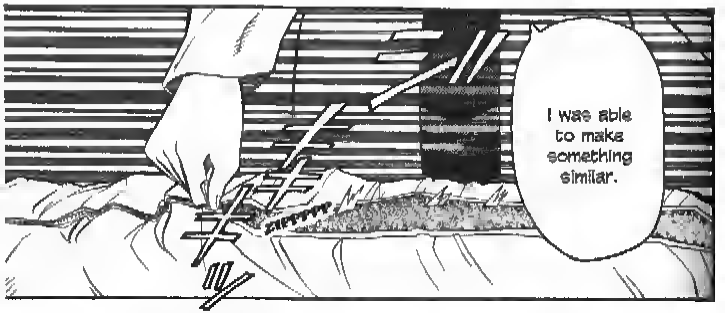

Where are you?
DASH
DASH
Oh! I didn't think you would be in here!
GATCH
Boss!
KYU
STOMP

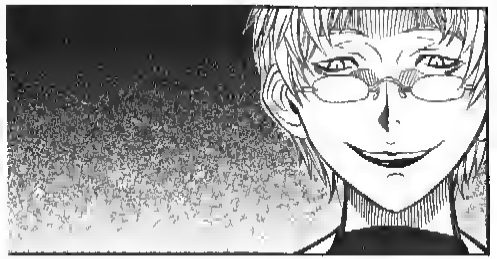

It's your report from 6 years ago!
I found this!

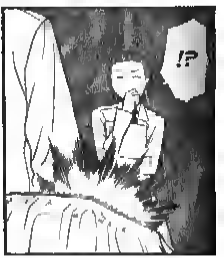

"Protective solution!"
What amazing work!

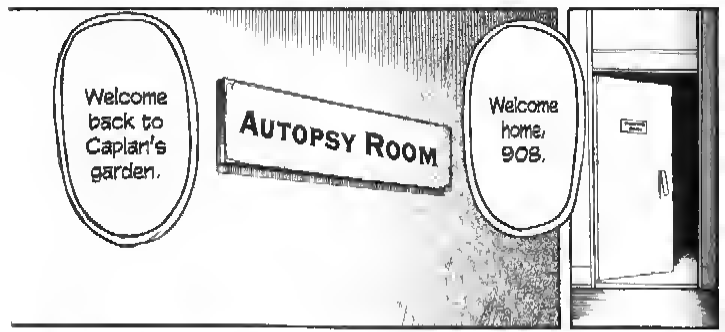
This research will revolutionize treatment for burn victims once it's done!
Reduction of pain while taking over the respiratory functions of the skin!

You can
toss that.
Why?
Wei
Caplan had no interest in such research.


I was able to make something similar.



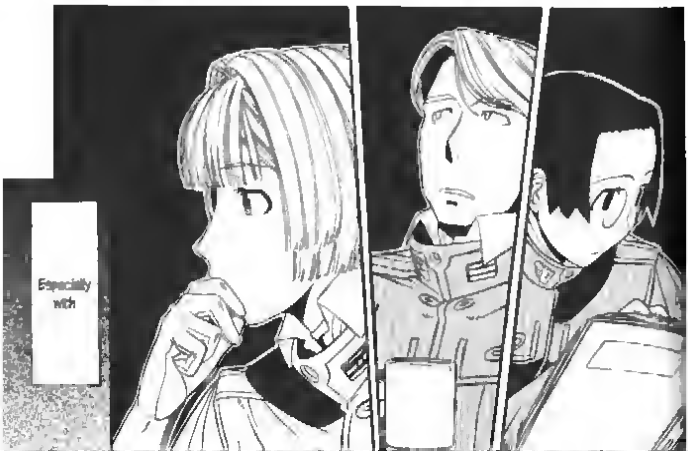

!?


Welcome back to Caplan's garden.
AUTOPSY ROOM
Welcome home, 908.

PumpkinScissors

there's
been
tension
in the
air.
Ever since the
Wacanorks
incident...
GLANCE
SCRIBBLE
SCRIBBLE
SCRIBBLE

GLANCE

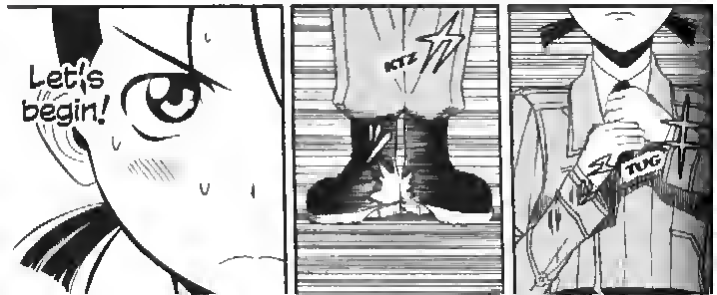

Especially
with

the corporal. He's downright despondent.

I must brighten his mood!
dance
SCRIBBLE

I thought of
a happy dance we can all do together.
It took me all morning!
Plan A: The Lunatic Dance

Because
others might think it's embarrassing.
I figured I would conduct a test run in the Section III storage room.


Let's begin!
KTZ
TUG

Pa-Pa-Pa-Pumpkin
Important Start out with enthusiasm

La-La-La-Pumpkin
Note Playful expression to capture the heart of the audience

Scissorsss...
(Quiet)
Focus your spirit...
S c i s s o r s !
(Loud)
PWAT
PWAT
and...
release!

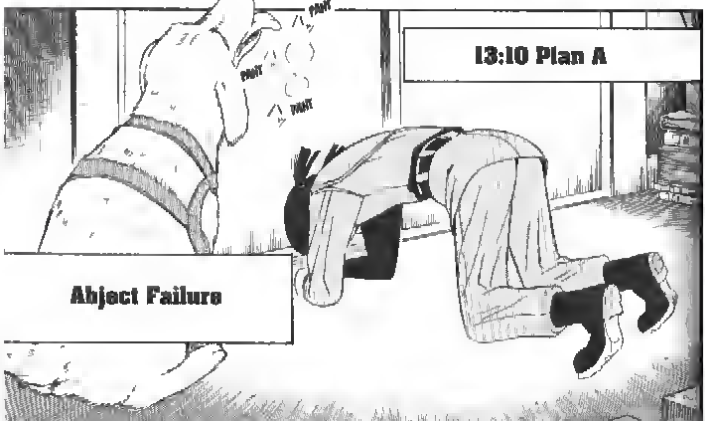
I should keep this to myself forever
This is way more embarrassing than I imagined.

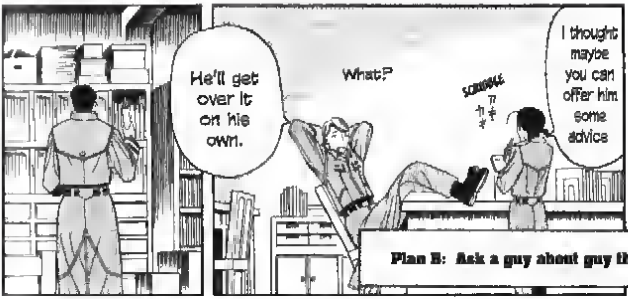
and ever...

People have the right to
the freedom of religion

No, no this is a misunderstanding, Corporal!
You don't have to look at me like that! Don't turn your back!
LEAP
LEAP

TAKU
SLIDEEE


PANT
PANT
PANT
13:10 Plan A
Abject Failure


He'll get over it on his own.
What?
SCRIBBLE
I thought maybe you can offer him some advice
Plan B: Ask a guy about guy things

good at being yourself.
Well, you're
SIGH
I've got a lot on my mind
Why are you askin' me?

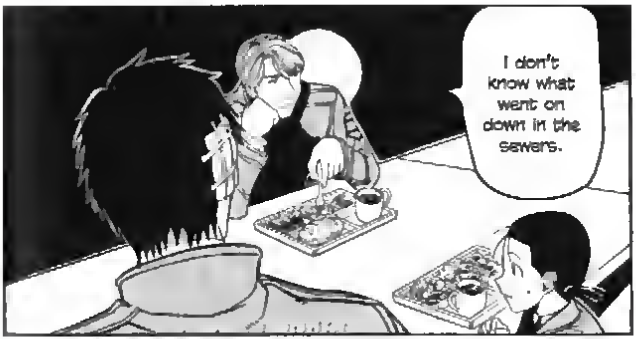
I... see.
comfortable in his skin
You can clue him in...
I don't know of anyone else who's so

SIGH
Oreldo definitely revels in marching to his own drummer
HA HA HA
MOO
MOO
Sure. Where are we going?
Big guy, come with me.
CLATTER
A happy place for men.
Happy place for men?
8
Some-thing all men enjoy
THRUST
THRUST
N o
13:30 Plan B—

GAAH
GAAH
GYAA
GYAA
わー
わー
ギャー
ギャー
……
Will you guys get to work?
NO NO NO NO!
—Implosion—
Do you know what that means?
Oreido, that was sexual harassement!
Why don't you just go home?
Sexual harassement!
Intelligence Department Cafeteria

How dare you!?
He really fil depressed.
So much tension...

JOLT
ever since the waterworks incident—
I just wanted to say that


I don't know what went on down in the sewers.

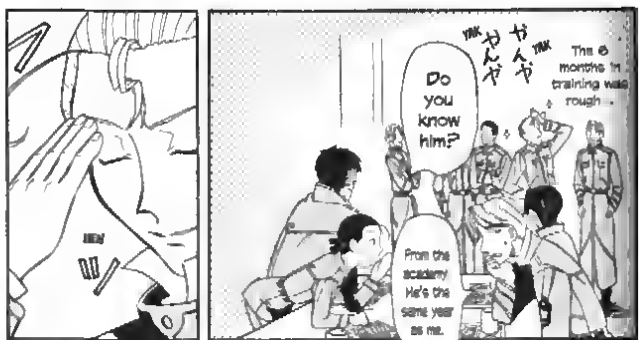
We got refugees out of there and crushed the drug trade.
You did your god-damned job.

Not every-one made it out alive.
So what's the plan, runner-up?
...Creida?
What's with the pathetic argument happening over here?
How many people do we have to save to get your freakin' approval?

It's Section III!
DUUUN
Section I...
Section I, eh? What do you want?
They're not Claymore One.
J-I-I?

DUUUN
But... check out my Double Shotel emblem!
Uh...Heh! I admit I didn't make the cut for Claymore One.

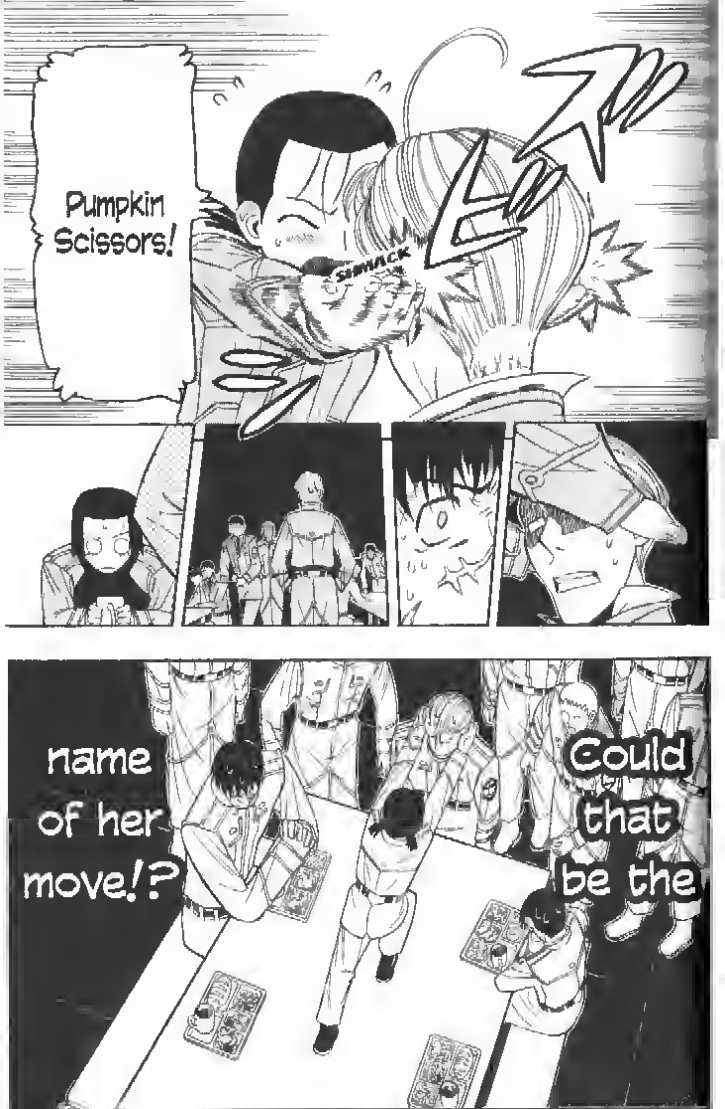
The sting of a hornet! The victor of intelligence operations!
The effect is just like the shotel!
We undermine our enemies through superior intelligence!


HEH
Do you know him?
From the academy. He's the same year as me.
やんや
やんや
やんや
The 6 months in training was rough...

We fight in the valiant struggle for the Empire every day...
CACKLE
While you guys relax.

Recon-struction efforts, eh?
Did you save five people so far? Maybe ten?

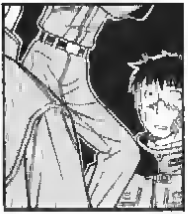
You're running away?
SHIN
CLATTER
You have no pride, do you
...


Pumpkin Scissors!
SMACK
Could that be the name of her move!?

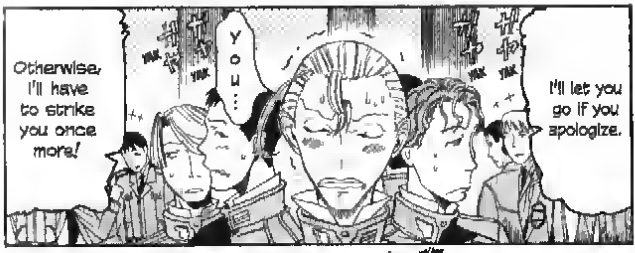
Stop!
hell...
What the...
I can't watch you bully others, get it!?
Hey...
I just want to make sure...
You're not trying to defend me, are you?
what?
What is it?
I'm sorry...
huff

I didn't know you were
also very depressed, Orsido

Really?



YAK
YAK
That kid from Section III's all pumped up!
What's going on?
I won't allow anyone to trash our unit!
Later?
GRRR
We can deal with you later.


Otherwise, I'll have to strike you once more!
YOU...
I'll let you go if you apologize.

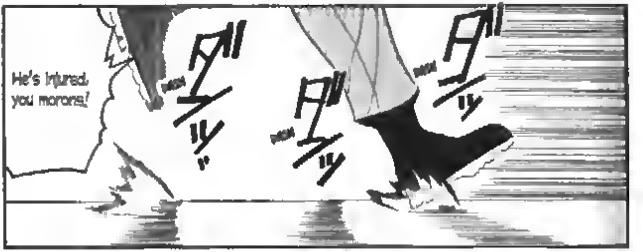
Whoa!
Pu
Pumpkin.

LEAP
Stop making a fool of me, you twerp!

EMPTY
KLOKK
Whoa whoa..

He's out.
Lemme down!
THUD
Crap! Lan!
Lemme down!
CLANG
Um I'm not...
You asked for it!
I don't want to mess up my mug today
Run.
What do we do?

JOLT
You guys again!!
WHO?
WASH
Stop, you bastards!
The big guy won't fight back!
The corporal's getting beat up!
Oh no!
BONK
BONK
Dammit! Slow poke!
HYAAA
TOSS
SKIDOOO


He's injured, you morons!

Stop picking on

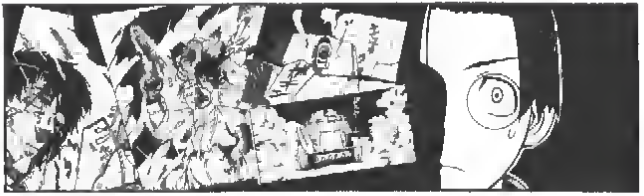
Let's kick his ass!
Ass-hole! You...!
Now they're both getting beat up

him!
SLAMMM

Me too!
Section III should know to back down.
I'm betting on Section I.
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
What's the ruckus about? What is the loser unit fighting about?

First Lieutenant Weber!
What are you doing here?
Section III's odds are 1 to 16!
Place your bets!

About the armored vehicle.
They grilled me for details.
Thanks.
I was called here by Section I.



I didn't tell them about the Corporal's role in the whole thing.
Don't worry.

They were more interested in

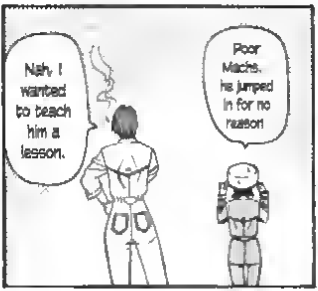
Why now?
the agents.

Who knows?
If you're a man,
go help out your mates!
SHOUT
Yes, ma'am!
They should be here soon
I should help!
Oh...
SNUGGLE
You're fine.
HOLD

Crap!
It's security!!

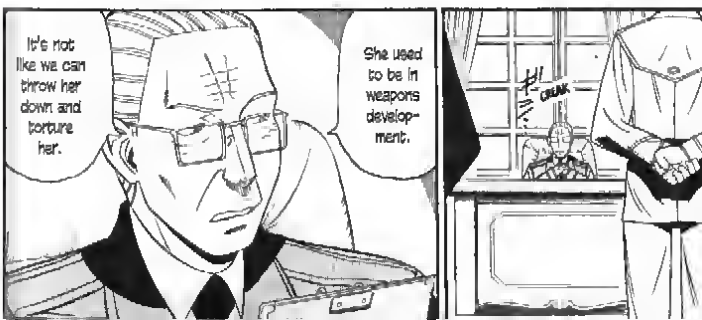
What are you morons doing?

The proceeds go to the house!
あっはっはっは。
It's a draw!
We're arresting everyone involved!

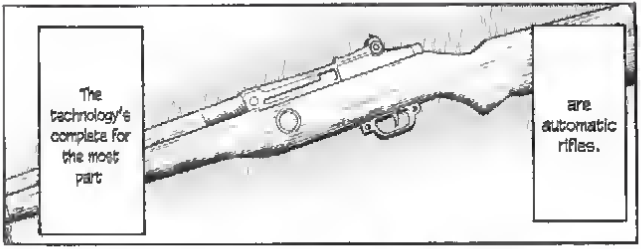

Nah, I wanted to teach him a lesson.
Poor Macho, he jumped in for no reason

Section 1st
Major Connery
Lieutenant Webrier
He's been crashing too many of my cars!

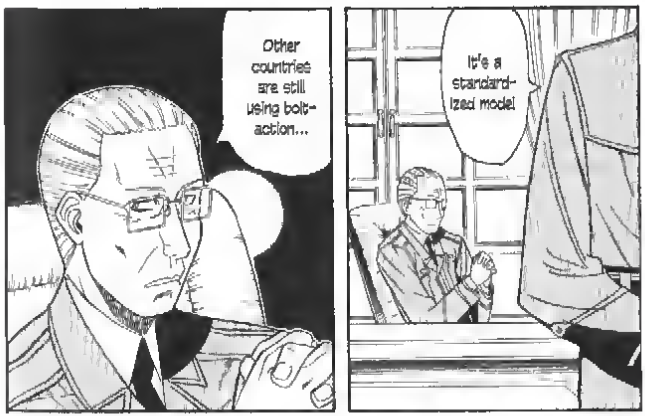
CLANK
Excuse me.
seems like a tough woman
HEH


It's not like we can throw her down and torture her.
She used to be in weapons development.
CREAK

So, what do you think about her testimony?
Regarding the connection with the waterwork operation?
This is strictly my personal opinion
The firearms confiscated from the waterworks employees

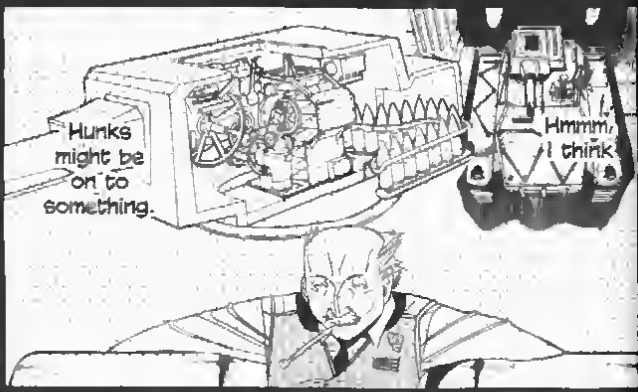

The technology's complete for the most part
are automatic rifles.

No jamming at all
We fired three hundred rounds as a test.
The ammo specs don't match those found in the data from the Technological Conference for Allied Western Nations.


Other countries are still using bolt-action...
It's a standardized model

We won't be able to maintain that level of quality via mass production.
I'm sure we can custom order a high-quality duplicate.

Yet, someone out there is doing exactly that.
SPIN
CREAK


Hunks might be on to something.
Hmmm, I think

I wonder if our unit can have the automatic rifles?
KIZ
KIZ
KIZ
KIZ
Hm?
You're excused.
CREAK
Then it's more important
Don't command the enemy's technology.
For close combat, the Republic's revolver cylinders are preferable.
FLUFF
Oh..

She's the one who got past your twin blades.
That's Alice L. Malvin.
Hm ..
I didn't think she was so petite.
MEDICAL ROOM
Medical Room
...
We'll look like fools otherwise.
She didn't kill anyone with her sword. Ignore what happened. That's for the best.

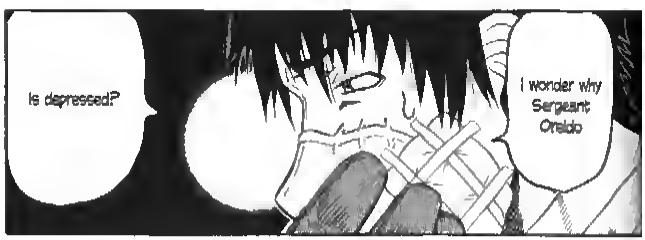
I apolo-gize.
Your wounds were getting better.
URGH
more despondent!
He's becoming

FLASH
Reveal! The Sexy Sigh!

Plan C Title
SIGH
I think Oreido's idea is the only option left at this point...

Yes!
That's me!

Ser-
geant
BEATIN
REVIEWING!!


Is depressed?
I wonder why Sergeant Oneido

I'm really always thinking about myself.
I can't see what's going on around me.

I wasn't able to save him.
That's probably why
I failed to see that people were concerned about me.
I failed due to my despair
I was only thinking of myself...
I'm not the only one with problems

Cheer up, Feel better!
We're having delicious stew today!
Wipe your tears and enjoy!
Let's dig in!!

TEE HEE
Are you surprised?
That's a song from the Republic...!?
STIRS
おろ
STIRS
おろ
GLANCE
きょろ
GLANCE
きょろ
What if someone heard you!?
That's music of the enemy!
I also
STRETCH
I loved singing, and I sang lots of songs!
I used to be in the military band.

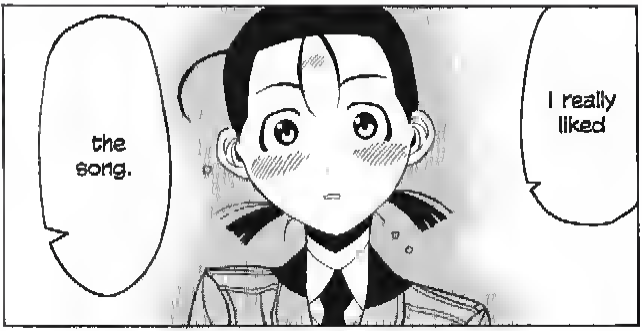
the Republic.
love songs from
I wasn't allowed to study them.
TOOT
Because they're songs of the enemy.
STRESS
STRESS
STRESS
STRESS
The lyrics are cheerful.
I worked really hard to get here
I would be able to research what I wanted.
I figured if I was in intel-ligence,

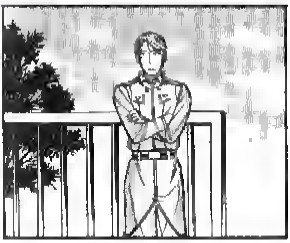
Everyone has
really important, personal reasons
for being part of Section III.

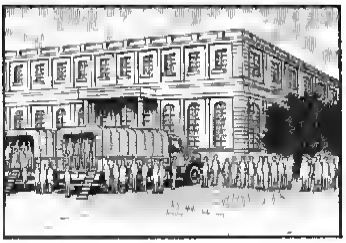
There's nothing wrong with thinking about yourself. In fact,
one must think deeply
to become comfortable in one's skin.

That's what your superior thinks,
Corporal!

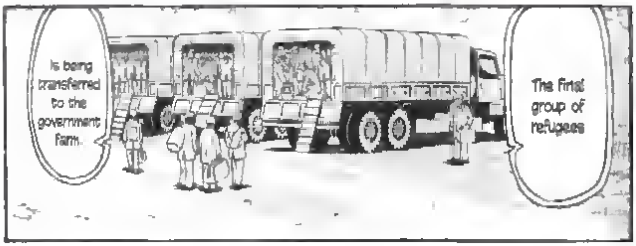
I don't think
I fully understand yet.
GLANCE
For the time being.
I'll go apologize to Oraldo
It's important that I do this.
By the way..
GLANCE GLANCE
?
SLIDE


I really liked
the song.



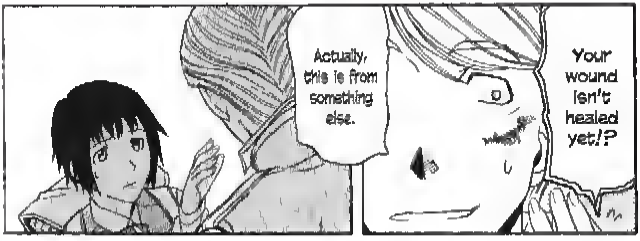


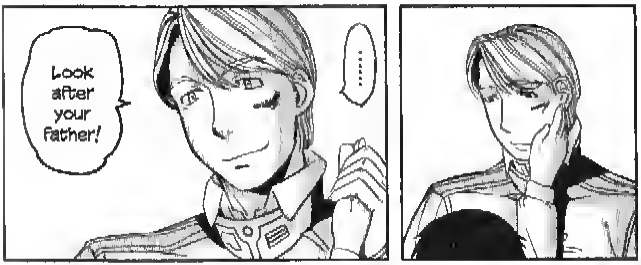
So, today's the day.


The first group of refugees
is being transferred to the government farm.

After this, there won't be any more room at the farms

Excuse me, Sergeant.
Oreido!
Marie!
Did you come by to see me off?


Your wound isn't healed yet!?
Actually, this is from something else.


Look after your father!
.....

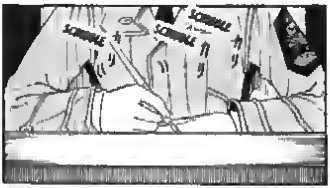
I was pissed off.
Sorry about what happened at the cafeteria.

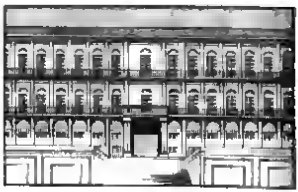
.....
wipe

It's a numbers game to some people.
Who you saved, who you couldn't.
The people you relocated are just a small handful of the total.
People aren't points on a score-card.
did you fail?
If you could save only one in a thousand,
he was saved but his life doesn't count?
Do you tell the survivor that

I'm done.
Oh well.
I just kept thinking about that.
That means we'll fight again soon enough.
Fine.
I'd still like to save everyone.

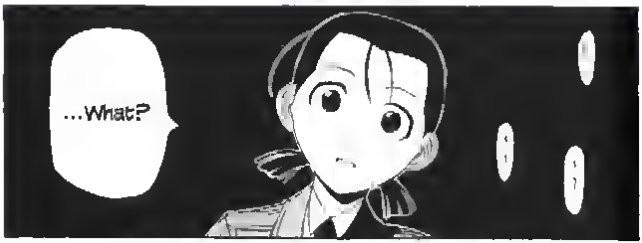
Yes, sir!

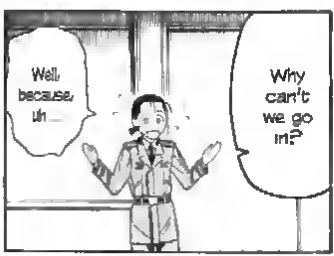

SCRIBBLE
SCRIBBLE
カリ
カリ



Ever since that day,
HMM

I wasn't able to do very much.
the corporal seems to be happier.
that everyone is doing better!
I'm just happy
acting strange...
actually, Alice has been
Captain Hunkers, I have to talk to you

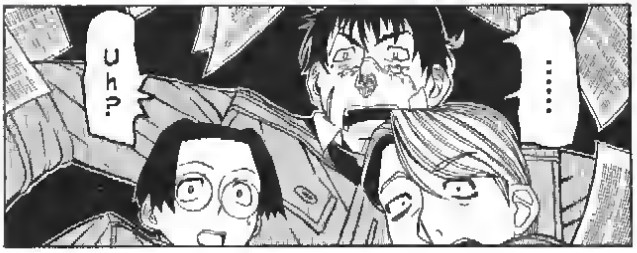

...What?


Why can't we go in?
Well, because, uh...

Uhm...
Well...

Uh...

They're discussing matters very important to the future of this unit.
What?
SECTION3rd
CAPTAIN HUNKS


Uh?
.....

I'm getting married.
WHAAAAAAT!?

PumpkinScissors

Interval

Machs, can you help me organize?
Sure.
This can won't spray, Machs.
Lemme see.
Machs, check over this document.
Yes, sir.
When people ask...No, without being asked, he just completes whatever needs to be done
He's like a mother who you can count on!
He's far more productive than me.
Machs is amazing!
You have to shake the can really well
SHAKE
I have an announcement!
Oreido is good at being himself...
all by himself!
If I had to describe him...
!

Machs is very good
at playing with himself!
Yo!
You're number one in the Empire!
YAY!
Now, Machs is depressed lately.
Pa-Pa-Pa-Pumpkin!
I don't understand men.
YAY!

PumpkinScissors

Malvin Residence
My Lady, your coach has arrived.
Thanks. I'll be going now.
JOLT
YOU——

idiot!
KICK
Episode 10 Trick in Treat

What was that for?!
Shaddup!
STOMP

THUD
UGH!?

That's no way for a woman to dress!
Elis, calm down. What
Eldest Daughter: Solice
Second Daughter: Elis

...
If you injured dear Alice's face?
She deserves it!

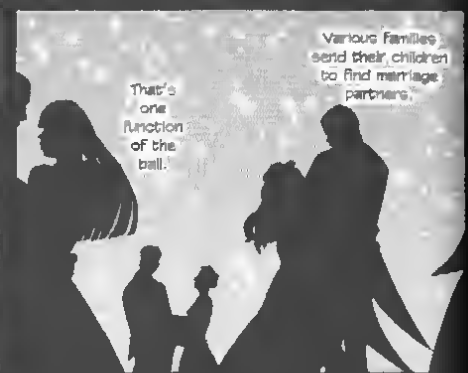
You can't seduce a man with that!
This is a legitimate military garb
Do you know where you're going?
What?
I have no intention of such a thing!
Ball?
You're going to a ball!

Yes.
I've turned down previous invitations, but
I thought I would attend this year.
That's perfectly fine.

Oh!
You're right.

It's just that aristocratic balls are about

YOINT


Various families send their children to find marriage partners.
That's one function of the ball.

I already have a fiancé.
I'll be marrying him.
CLATTER
Uh...
Uh— m..

Mache, you're his assistant! Make sure nobody slacks off!
Me!?
Oreldo, you're in charge during my absence!!
You heard me!
GLANCE
Your fiancé will be there tonight!
What am I running away for?

I'm representing the military tradition of the Melvin family!
You're going to change!
Come on!
What if he's sick of your craziness and cancels the engagement?
Please try to understand
But...
That again, you stupid girl!
Whaaaat!?
She was looking forward to wearing a dress like yours.
She was excited like a little girl!

We never attended a party together before.
You only think about work.

I know our family history is important to you
I'll change.
If you don't want to, you don't have to!

with my sisters.
I'll wear the dress along

What do you think?
Lovely!
It's not bad.
I picked the dress
TWIRL

Why—
LIFT
You're about to go meet your fiancé.
I doubt mother would have wanted to tag along
SOLICE
CLATTER

attending the ball from home.
Let's have her watch over her daughters
We're off to your debut at the ball!
TOK
You're a good girl
Sure.

YOU
Just in case!
still don't get it!

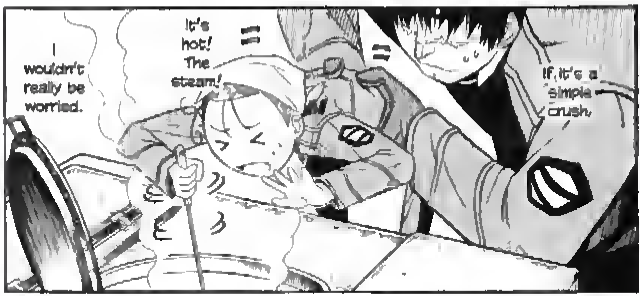
Supervising the Distribution of Food Rations

ドポポポ
Do you think he's shocked about the lieutenant?

I know, but
It's not like she's getting married tomorrow.

ヒラ
ニヤリ
maybe he has feelings for her.

I think this is different.
.....
I don't think so.


I wouldn't really be worried.
It's hot! The steam!
If it's a simple crush,

You bastard!
What the heck?
?

Can I do this for you?
In his case, I think it's something very deep.

That's enough.
You've lined up two or three times already!
Don't cut in front of me!

Shut up, Soldier!
Act like adults!
Stop fighting over stupid crap.

POINT
You're no different from those bastards!
You jerks get to eat three square meals a day!

It's like they're rubbing their privilege in our faces while we eat rationed food!
They eat good food and drink fine wine all decked out in fancy clothes.
The friggin' Ball!

What do you have to say about that?!
Yeah, I'd be pissed, too.
True that

SILENCE
!
Why don't you go tell them yourself?
Why are you telling me, eh?

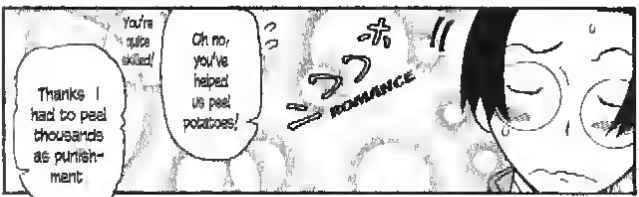
My temper flared up. Sorry.
Yeah
Uh, that's going too far

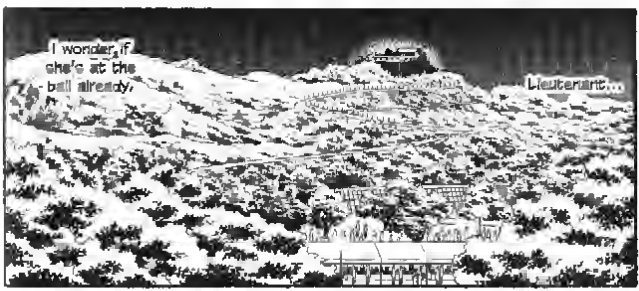
That was an odd response?
Yeah
Are you all right?

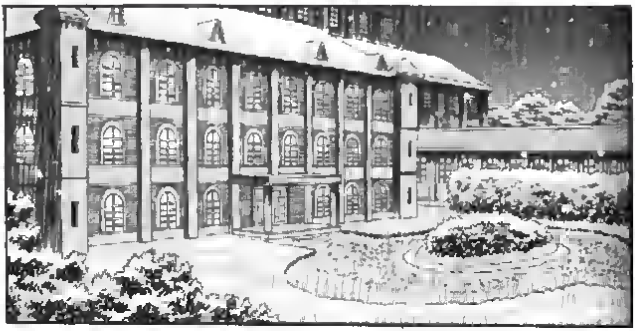
I can't believe it was the day of the ball. Bad timing..
We got orders from above that the location was being changed at the last minute.

This is usually done at a different park.

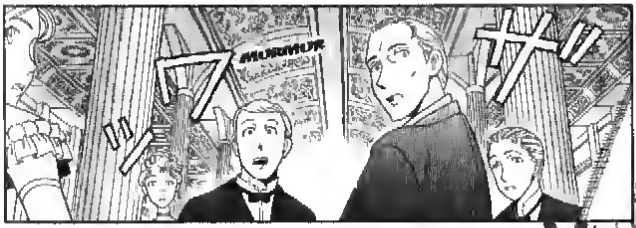
I regret that the military can only supply material aid...


You're quite skilled!
Oh no, you've helped us peel potatoes!
ROMANCE
Thanks I had to peel thousands as punishment


I wonder if she's at the ball already.
Lieutenant...



TOK



It's the Melvin sisters!
I hear the two older ladies are already married...
Yes, their husbands' families have asked them to keep their maiden name.
Ah, so people would know they're in-laws of one of the Thirteen Appointed Families?

There's an interesting rumor
The youngest girl is the next successor, right?

It'll pass quickly.
UGH
This attention is so annoying.
They're whispering about us

SCOOT
These beautiful ladies must be the famed Malvin sisters!

It's rare to see all three of you wearing dresses!
Lord Paulo.
Who are you?
What?
He's the Economic Director of the Empire.

Oh!
Nice to meet you.
It's lovely to meet the next successor
BWAHAHA
The pizza tonight is to die for.
Yum!
Ah! Excuse me!
Nice to
One more time..

I've caught you,
my Princess.

Lord Lionel!
HUH?
HUH?
DOKI
DOKI
SWEEP
UHHH
He's the young "Lion" of the financial world.
He's been responsible for three successful business ventures this year!
He's beautiful and successful. He's perfect. ♡
It's Lord Lionel Taylor!
あ
あっ

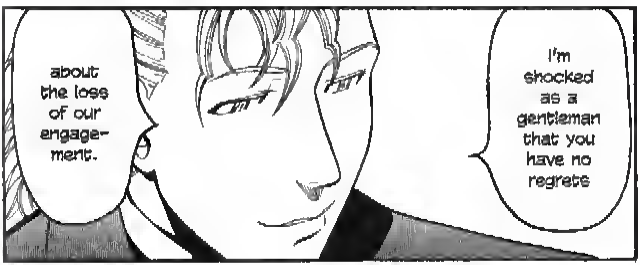
We may have a chance.
Shall we have some champagne over there?
You've heard the latest gossip, right?
I can't believe that little snot is engaged to him!
Give us details later!
GIGGLE
Good luck!
What is it, Princess?
Lord Lionel...
You look lovely tonight, Princess.

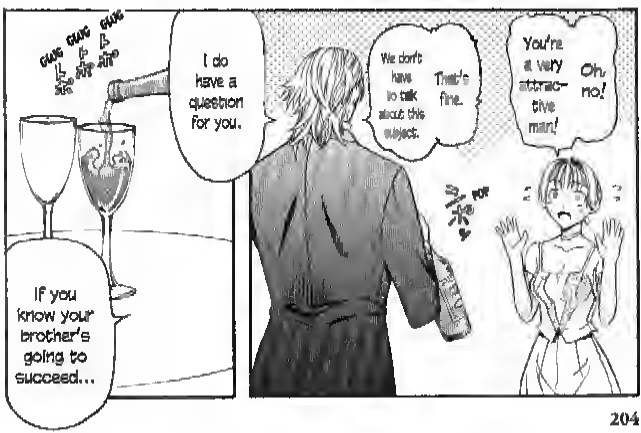
I won't be your princess much longer.
I'm sure you've heard the rumors.
I, Alice L. Malvin,
within the next few years,
will be removed from the line of succession.

So the rumors about your brother are true.
He has not made his formal debut yet.
He'll be five soon.
When my father's current wife gave birth to Allen,
my father made the decision.
When Allen is announced as the successor, the Malvin family will no longer need to invite a groom
Our marriage will no longer benefit the Taylor family, either.
If we part now, you can still protect your family name.
This is just my opinion, of course.

You want me to call off the engagement?
How bold. Is this how the Thirteen Appointed Families behave?
Yes, this is how we behave.
I'm blown away.

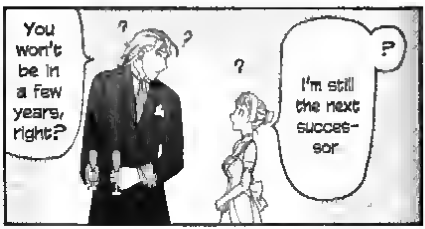
Not so much by your bold words
or your love for your brother who you should resent,
or the fact that you're willing to carry the burden of shame on your shoulders...


I'm shocked as a gentleman that you have no regrets
about the loss of our engagement.


You're a very attractive man!
Oh, no!
We don't have to talk about this subject.
That's fine.
POP
I do have a question for you.
GLUG GLUG GLUG
If you know your brother's going to succeed...

Why do you accept the role of the next succes-sor
with so much passion and pride?

Hmmm


You won't be in a few years, right?
I'm still the next succes-sor

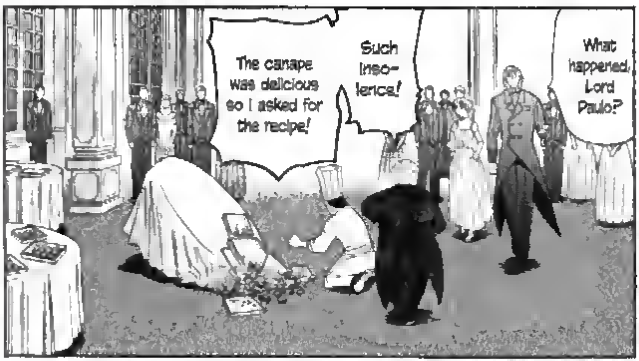
If we only value things that are perma-nent, then
our lives are utterly worthless.

I'm not sure what you're trying to say, but

Would you want to die right now?
We'll all die by time, illness, or the sword.
HA HA
It's the same idea.
HAHAHA You're not like anyone else!
Okay...

I won't cancel our engagement.
GULP
my princess.
In fact, you've strengthened my resolve to make you mine.
Princess.
I want to take care of you.
Honestly
I don't drink.
KER-ASH

Lord Paulo?


The canape was delicious so I asked for the recipe!
Such insolence!
What happened, Lord Paulo?

We made sure it was appropriately prepared...
We didn't have enough materials
He said it was made from acorn paste!
Acorn!?

Acorns are for animals!
ACCK!
SMASH

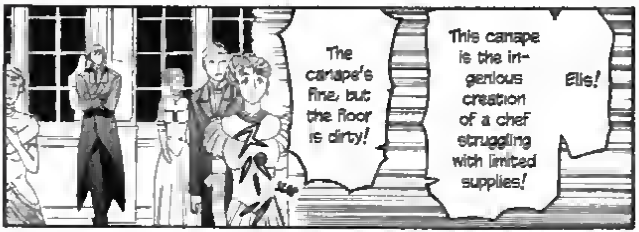
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE

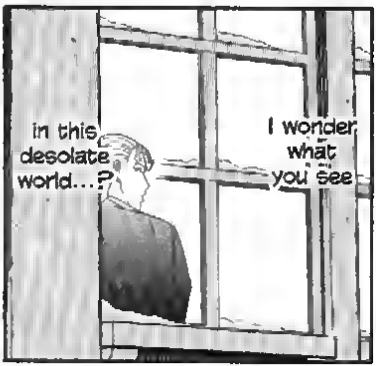
You did, too!
Ugh! You said it was delicious!
Acorn?
RUMBLE
RUMBLE

I'll make sure you never work in the Empire again!
Br...
DASH!

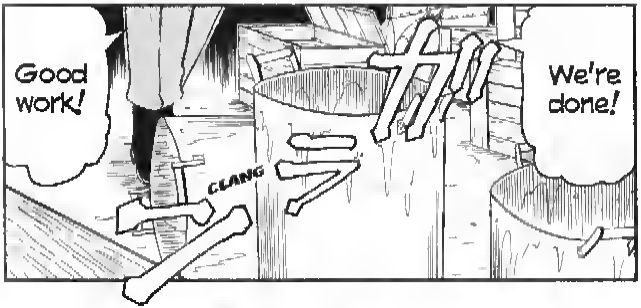
CHOMP
CHOMP
CHOMP
CHOMP
CHOMP
GULP
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
You
Perfect! You can work for my family
It's very exqui-site!

You shouldn't eat food off the floor, dear
SURE
You idiot!


The canape's fine, but the floor is dirty!
This canape is the ingenious creation of a chef struggling with limited supplies!
Elis!


I wonder what you see in this desolate world...?

State Section III.
Alice L. Malvin.


Good work!
CLANG
We're done!

STEP
STEP
STEP
STEP

Big guy!
Go tell Stecchin we're done.
Yes, sir.

It's a small difference, but
To the world,...

Mom, you're not going to finish this?

you've done your part to help with relief and reconstruction!

Eat this for me, okay?
I'm full already.

Huh?
My fingers hurt from the cold!

Wow!
That's great!
Thank you, Mr Soldier!
TUC
TUC
TUC
Yes!

Whoa!!

Help me!

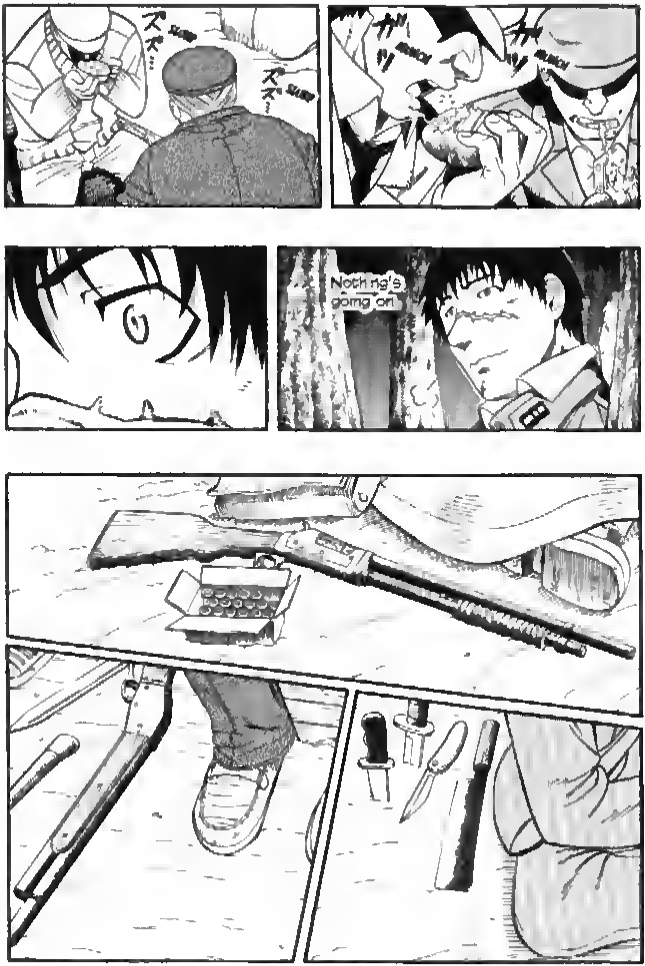
I wonder if there's any left for Marc.

What should I do...?

I understand, but...
Corporal, you shouldn't do this.
Wow!
All done!
It's important to maintain empathy. I used to do similar things at first.
WHEE
Next time, you won't have a coat anymore!
Sorry to trouble you.

RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUMBLE
That doesn't mean...
Correct?
Prove my worth?
Do I want to some kind of recognition?
SHUFFLE
SHUFFLE
Am I expecting some kind of action?
SHUFFLE
SHUFFLE
What am I doing?

after Lieutenant leaves the unit one day. .
Prove that I can continue
JOLT


Nothing's going on.

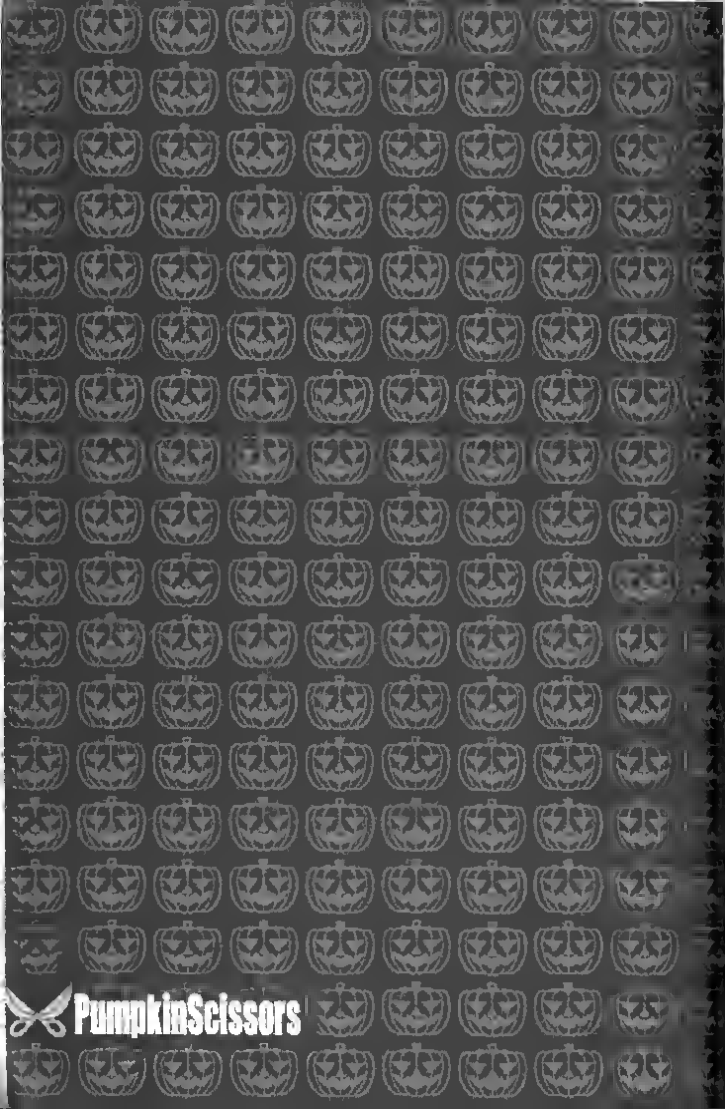
Have you enjoyed your last supper?
Men!
STAND
We've gotta do something!!
Yeah! I made up my mind when I saw those lights for the ball!
This is proof that Lord Paulo's been embezzling money!
We have the documents from an accomplice!
THRUST

We have to strike!
That's not enough!
By morning, the media should receive this information!

We'll likely be captured and executed.
I need to report this to the sergeant.
Let's be that hammer!

but we must make that initial strike!

We must strike Paulo and the nobles in that ball!
#ASSH!


PumpkinScissors

We received a message from our informer at *The Nation*, the capital newspaper.
Documents that prove Lord Paulo's been embezzling from the government?
SECTION 1
MAGIC LICENSES
We need to control this information!
Deploy both Axe Four and the police!
Raid all media outlets in the capital.
Confiscate similar envelopes. You have permission to open them!!
Yes, sir.
Where is Lord Paulo right now?
He's at the ball, sir.
Shall we send an escort?

This is brilliant.
The Economics Department has a powerful influence on the commoners. It's impossible to get information from them.
How did they gain access to these papers?
That knowledge is far more important than Lord Paulo's life.
If the Lord was murdered, we could
SNEER
get the most juice out of the perps.
We just need to arrest the perp at the end.
Pass on the escort. Instead, lock down that area.

See You Next Time!